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AN ACT

RELATING TO WATER; AMENDING THE ACEQUIA AND COMMUNITY DITCH
INFRASTRUCTURE FUND TO ALLOW FUNDING FOR DISASTER RESPONSE,
RECOVERY AND HAZARD MITIGATION AND COST SHARE REQUIREMENTS OF
STATE AND FEDERAL FUNDING PROGRAMS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. Section 72-14-24.1 NMSA 1978 (being Laws
2019, Chapter 169, Section 1) is amended to read:

"72-14-24.1. ACEQUIA AND COMMUNITY DITCH INFRASTRUCTURE
FUND--CREATED.--

A. The "acequia and community ditch infrastructure
fund" is created in the state treasury and shall be
administered by the interstate stream commission. The fund
consists of money transferred from the New Mexico irrigation
works construction fund and interest accruing to the fund.
Disbursements from the fund shall be made by warrant of the
secretary of finance and administration pursuant to vouchers
signed by the director of the interstate stream commission or
the director's authorized representative. Any unexpended or
unencumbered balance remaining in the fund at the end of any
fiscal year shall revert to the New Mexico irrigation works
construction fund.

B. Money in the fund is appropriated to the
interstate stream commission to:

1 (1) provide funding to acequias or community
2 ditches for planning, engineering design or construction of
3 irrigation works, and infrastructure projects, including
4 dams, reservoirs, diversions, ditches, flumes or other
5 appurtenances for the purposes of restoration, repair,
6 disaster response recovery and hazard mitigation, improvement
7 of irrigation efficiency and protection from floods; and

8 (2) match or meet cost share requirements of
9 other state and federal funding programs.

10 C. The interstate stream commission shall:

11 (1) consult with the acequia commission and
12 the New Mexico acequia association to develop:

13 (a) guidelines and criteria for funding
14 eligibility; provided that no local cost share shall be
15 required;

16 (b) applications; and

17 (c) selection requirements with a
18 prioritization on project readiness and need;

19 (2) review acequia or community ditch plans
20 and specifications;

21 (3) inspect completed projects; and

22 (4) report biannually to the acequia
23 commission on the progress of projects funded through the
24 fund and the expenditure of money from the fund.

25 D. As used in this section, "fund" means the

1 acequia and community ditch infrastructure fund."

2 SECTION 2. EFFECTIVE DATE.--The effective date of
3 the provisions of this act is July 1, 2023. _____

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