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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Papen **ORIGINAL DATE** 02/12/14
LAST UPDATED _____ **HB** _____

SHORT TITLE Location of High-Power Transmission Line **SM** 82

ANALYST Armstrong

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY14	FY15		
	NFI		

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates HM

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

State Land Office (SLO)

Renewable Energy Transmission Authority (RETA)

Public Regulation Commission (PRC)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Memorial 82 requests that the United States Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management to assure the Department of Defense that a high-power transmission line to be built in New Mexico near White Sands missile range will be located along existing transmission and utility corridors so as not to affect national security.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

No fiscal impact.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

RETA reports that the SunZia transmission project has been under development since 2008 and is planned to be approximately 515 miles of two single-circuit 500 kV transmission lines and associated substations that interconnect SunZia with numerous 345 kV lines in both NM and AZ.

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In 2009, the Department of Interior issued a notice to begin the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the SunZia transmission project. Through the EIS process, a number of proposed routes have been studied, but several have been identified by White Sands Missile Range as having a potential negative impact on military missions. As an effort to address these potential impacts, M.I.T. Lincoln Laboratory has been requested to perform a study to evaluate the concerns raised by White Sands Missile Range. Once the study has been published it should provide additional information for BLM's consideration.

DUPLICATION

House Memorial 72 duplicates SM 82.

JA/ds