

Resolution 2019-05

Requesting that the Interstate Stream Commission Develop Guidelines  
for the Acequia and Community Ditch Infrastructure Fund

WHEREAS, the Interstate Stream Commission administers acequia infrastructure funding from Capital Outlay, the 90-10 program, the low interest loan program, and the state matching funding for federal Resource Conservation Partnership Program and Army Corp of Engineering funding,

WHEREAS, the New Mexico State Legislature in the 2019 legislative session created an Acequia and Community Ditch Infrastructure Fund (hereinafter referred to as “the Fund”) with recurring funding of \$2.5 million per year from the Irrigation Works Construction Fund, a beneficiary of the Land Grant Permanent Fund,

WHEREAS, the act creating the Fund specified that the ISC would consult with the New Mexico Acequia Association and the New Mexico Acequia Commission in developing guidelines for administering the Fund,

WHEREAS, because of the complexity of administering acequia projects and their funding packages, which often include different types of matching funding, the ISC acequia program needs a reasonable level of staffing,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the New Mexico Acequia Association requests that the staff from the ISC Acequia Program conduct work sessions with representatives from the NMAA and the New Mexico Acequia Commission to get input on guidelines for administering the Acequia and Community Ditch Infrastructure Fund,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the New Mexico Acequia Association requests that the New Mexico State Legislature increase the staffing level to administer projects as part of the ISC Acequia Program,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the NMAA requests that the funding guidelines require that a portion of each year’s budget be earmarked for acequia engineering and design to ensure that, in subsequent years, acequias who apply for construction funding have a completed design;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the New Mexico Acequia Association supports a provision in the guidelines that reduces the requires cost share percentage for acequias with limited resources or who have financial hardship;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution will be forwarded to the leadership of the New Mexico State Legislature, the Interstate Stream Commission, the Office of the State Engineer, and the New Mexico Acequia Commission.