



## **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

None reported.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

Currently, EMNRD's Energy Conservation and Management Division (ECMD) provides assistance to homebuilders and contractors to meet the requirements of the 1986 and 1992 New Mexico model energy codes. This assistance will shift to helping with newer energy codes, if adopted.

## **OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES**

- A Western Governors' Association resolution, entitled "Western States' Energy Policy Roadmap" (August 2001), encourages western states to review and improve the energy efficiency of their building codes. New Mexico's Commercial Energy Code is over 15 years old and the Residential Code is over 10 years old.
- EMNRD-ECMD receives grants from the U.S. Department of Energy to help the state implement and train contractors and homebuilders on compliance with new energy codes.
- The lowest cost and easiest opportunity to improve the energy efficiency of a home is during construction. The benefits are realized over the life of a home, which may be more than 30 years.
- Energy efficiency opportunities are very cost-effective and usually pay for themselves in less than 5 years. These measures pay for themselves much quicker if energy prices double or triple as they did with natural gas last winter.
- New Mexico citizens will have more disposable income if they have energy-efficient homes.

## **POSSIBLE QUESTIONS**

1. What are the New Mexico model energy codes?
2. Is this an increased cost to New Mexico residents and if so by how much?

**JFS/njw**