

**NOTE: As provided in LFC policy, this report is intended only for use by the standing finance committees of the legislature. The Legislative Finance Committee does not assume responsibility for the accuracy of the information in this report when used for other purposes.**

**The most recent FIR version (in HTML & Adobe PDF formats) is available on the Legislative Website. The Adobe PDF version includes all attachments, whereas the HTML version does not. Previously issued FIRs and attachments may be obtained from the LFC in Suite 101 of the State Capitol Building North.**

## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR: Lopez DATE TYPED: 03/03/03 HB \_\_\_\_\_

SHORT TITLE: Use of Drainage Ditches for Storm Water SB SJM 84

ANALYST: Chabot

### APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY03	FY04	FY03	FY04		
			\$.01 (see Narrative)		

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

New Mexico Environment Department (NMED)

New Mexico Finance Authority (NMFA)

Office of the State Engineer (OSE)

### SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Joint Memorial 84 resolves that a new or existing interim Legislative Committee study the feasibility of using Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District (MRGCD) drainage ditches as the means of storm water conveyance in the South Valley in Bernalillo County. The study is to address rights-of-way needs assessments, necessary easement agreements, needed memorandums of understanding, revisions to existing plans and policies, and revisions to existing operation and maintenance of drainage facilities.

Significant Issues

Drainage in the South Valley is complicated because the valley is lower than the Rio Grande and new drainage infrastructure is required. To reduce costs, an option maybe to use existing MRGCD ditches to provide drainage from the South Valley.

OSE states the use of drainage ditches to convey storm water runoff would be advantageous.

## **Senate Joint Memorial 84 -- Page 2**

Storm water currently drains to the river. Use of the water by MRGCD would result in more water being available to downstream users. However, the capacities of the ditches would have to be assessed to determine if they are capable of carrying the extra water. In addition, issues of water quality would also have to be considered. Storm runoff water often contains chemicals, solid matter and fecal bacteria that may exceed clean water standards.

### **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

This joint memorial contains no appropriation but there will be costs associated with this memorial. An engineering assessment will need to be completed.

### **POSSIBLE QUESTIONS**

1. Is MRGCD willing to undertake this study without state funding?

GAC/prr