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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Moore DATE TYPED 3/8/05 HB HM 49

SHORT TITLE Use of Renewable Energy by Electric CO-OPS SB _____

ANALYST Aguilar

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY05	FY06	FY05	FY06		
	NFI				

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to SB 627, HB 748

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Memorial 49 requests the Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department (EMNRD) convene a task force to explore ways in which the state can encourage and support the development and transmission of rural renewable energy resources. The task force is to be composed of representatives of electric cooperatives, businesses, ranchers, and farmers interested in renewable energy, the Public Regulation Commission, and other appropriate state agencies, including the transmission and storage authority proposed in SB 627 and HB 748, should either bill become law.

Significant Issues

Rural electric cooperatives are not subject to the Renewable Portfolio Standard, as provided for in the Renewable Energy Act, Section 62-16-1 NMSA 1978. HM 49 requests the exploration of ways to encourage and support local electric cooperatives and businesses to achieve renewable energy goals and to provide a forum for public outreach and input on New Mexico rural renewable energy potential. The task force is required to report back to the Governor and the appropriate interim legislative committee by October 1, 2005, with recommendations for state legislation, funding alternatives and policies that could encourage rural renewable energy development.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

Taskforce creation would increase expenditures for the agency. EMNRD notes these costs could be absorbed within existing budget.

PA/lg