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## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 1/23/07

SPONSOR Lundstrom LAST UPDATED \_\_\_\_\_ HB 156

SHORT TITLE Northwest NM Environmental Planning SB \_\_\_\_\_

ANALYST Propst

### APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY07	FY08		
	\$75.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files  
 Department of Health  
 New Mexico Environment Department

#### Responses Received From

Department of Health (DOH)  
 New Mexico Environment Department (NMED)

### SUMMARY

House Bill 156 makes an Appropriation for Implementing and Administering a Program for Environmental Planning in Northwest NM.

HB 156 appropriates \$75,000 from the general fund in FY08 to implement and administer a demonstration program in San Juan, McKinley and Cibola counties designed to help communities understand and reduce risks to toxics from all sources. The goal of the program is to encourage communities to build collaborative partnerships that are self-sustaining and develop understanding of sources of toxics, and reduce risks through action at the local level.

### FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The program envisioned by HB 156 would seek to match state funds with federal grant funds.

**SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

EMNRD and other state agencies encourage community involvement in environmental permitting decisions. The program envisioned in this bill would assist agency efforts in providing information to communities about permitting actions that may impact them. This collaborative partnership program could help agencies create long term partnerships and build trust with community and citizen groups, so that potentially divisive issues can be addressed in a positive manner.

The three counties covered by this bill are currently the subject of significant new proposals for energy and mining development. Along with an increase in oil and gas development, there are proposals for a new large coal-fired power plant, numerous uranium exploration projects and several coal mine expansions.

**ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

This program may increase community involvement in permitting decisions.

Department of Health and NM Environment Department

WEP/nt