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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 1-28-2008

SPONSOR Griego LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE Acequia Construction Project Design SB 444

ANALYST Woods

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY08	FY09		
	\$150.0	Non-Recurring	General

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Office of the State Engineer (OSE)

SUMMARY

Synopsis:

Senate Bill 444 seeks to appropriate \$150,000 from the general fund to the Interstate Stream Commission for expenditure in fiscal year 2009 to provide engineering and design services for acequia construction projects. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of fiscal year 2009 shall revert to the general fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

OSE indicates that, during the last four years, state-funded acequia construction projects have risen from 15 or 16 per year to 116 in FY 2008. The growth has outstripped current resources for design and engineering capacity. OSE adds that, "This appropriation, in addition to the \$250,000 usually funded in HB2, would supply much needed resources."

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

OSE notes that existing staff could manage acequia construction projects with better design and in a more timely manner.

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

OSE suggests that some acequia projects would not receive engineering and design services in a timely manner.

BFW/mt