Fiscal impact reports (FIRs) are prepared by the Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) for standing finance committees of the NM Legislature. The LFC does not assume responsibility for the accuracy of these reports if they are used for other purposes.

Current and previously issued FIRs are available on the NM Legislative Website (www.nmlegis.gov) and may also be obtained from the LFC in Suite 101 of the State Capitol Building North.

## FISCAL IMPACT REPORT



ANALYST Wan

## APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

| Appropriation |  | Recurring <br> or Nonrecurring | Fund <br> Affected |
| ---: | ---: | :---: | :---: |
| FY21 | FY22 |  | Nonrecurring |

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)
ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

|  | FY21 | FY22 | FY23 | 3 Year <br> Total Cost | Recurring or <br> Nonrecurring | Fund <br> Affected <br> General <br> Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\$ 165.0$ | $\$ 165.0$ | $\$ 330.0$ | Recurring | Fund |  |

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

## SOURCES OF INFORMATION

## LFC Files

Responses Received From
Office of the State Engineer (OSE)

## SUMMARY

## Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 138 appropriates $\$ 100$ million from the general fund to the Office of the State Engineer (OSE) for expenditure in FY22 for statewide dam projects.

## FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of $\$ 100$ million contained in this bill is a nonrecurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY22 shall revert to the general fund.

The LFC capital outlay framework includes $\$ 5$ million to plan, design, construct, rehabilitate, and make improvements to publicly-owned dams statewide.

OSE reports that additional funding for 2 new FTE would be needed to manage the additional workload for design review and project management associated with administering these funds. The estimated annual cost of 2 FTE in the program responsible for dam project management is \$165 thousand.

## SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

OSE's Dam Safety Bureau regulates 292 dams in the state. Nearly 150 of those dams are publicly-owned and have the potential to cause loss of life in the event of a dam failure. Nearly 70 of these publicly-owned dams have known deficiencies with a total estimated rehabilitation cost of over $\$ 300$ million.

OSE reports it is highly unlikely that one fiscal year is enough time to expend the funds appropriated in this bill based on the typical timeframe for completing dam construction projects.

## ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

In order to effectively spend this appropriation, OSE states additional FTE or contractor assistance would be required.

## AMENDMENTS

OSE recommends increasing the time frame in which to expend this funding from one fiscal year to five to ensure sufficient time to plan, approve, and complete dam rehabilitation projects. OSE also proposes adding an appropriation to the bill to provide funds for OSE oversight and management of the program.

CW/sb

