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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR:	Heaton	DATE TYPED:	02/03/00	HB	113
SHORT TITLE:	Amend Hazardous Waste Act			SB	
				ANALYST:	O'Connell

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY00	FY01	FY00	FY01		
		NFI	NFI		

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates/Conflicts with/Companion to/Relates to

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC files

New Mexico Environment Department (NMED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 113 amends the Hazardous Waste Act to remove the authority of the Environmental Improvement Board to require financial assurance from federal government facilities or facilities operated by federal government contractors.

Significant Issues

According to New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) analysis, House Bill 113 could result in additional long-term costs to the state (potentially as much as \$100 million) if significant cleanup is needed as a result of improper operation or closure of the Waste Isolation Pilot Project (WIPP).

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

NMED's requirement of financial assurance from Westinghouse, the federal contractor that operates WIPP, has been challenged by the federal Department of Energy and is currently being litigated in state and federal courts.

BOC/gm