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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR: Papen DATE TYPED: 02/04/03 HB _____

SHORT TITLE: NMSU Water Management Research SB 67

ANALYST: Williams

APPROPRIATION

Appropriation Contained		Estimated Additional Impact		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY03	FY04	FY03	FY04		
	\$330.0			Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Relates to SB 66, HB 95
Companion to HB 96

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Responses Received

LFC Files
Commission on Higher Education (CHE)
New Mexico State University, Water Resources Research Institute (WRRI)

No Response Received

Office of State Engineer

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Bill 67 appropriates \$330.0 from the general fund to the Board of Regents of New Mexico State University for research on water conservation, planning and management.

Significant Issues

CHE notes NMSU submitted an expansion request of \$330.0 for new water initiatives in addition to the request of \$397.4 for continuation of current operations. The water initiatives request was ranked by NMSU as #11 out of 13 research and public service requests submitted to CHE. CHE notes its funding recommendation included \$300.0 for water initiatives at WRRI.

CHE notes four potential performance measures:

1. Number of projects funded; total value of projects funded;
2. Number of students receiving training;
3. Number of NM WRRRI publications, journal articles and graduate theses or dissertations;
4. Interactions with agencies through funding, participation in conferences, technical symposiums, planning meetings; requests for information.

This is a Water and Natural Resources Committee-sponsored bill.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$330.0 contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY 04 shall revert to the general fund.

The LFC budget recommendation for WRRRI is \$349.2, down five percent from FY 03.

ALTERNATIVES

CHE notes the potential for the use of indirect cost revenues as alternative funding.

AW/sb