

**LFC Requester:**

**Helen Gaussoin**

**AGENCY BILL ANALYSIS  
2024 REGULAR SESSION**

**WITHIN 24 HOURS OF BILL POSTING, UPLOAD ANALYSIS TO:**

**Analysis.nmlegis.gov**

*{Analysis must be uploaded as a PDF}*

**SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION**

*{Indicate if analysis is on an original bill, amendment, substitute or a correction of a previous bill}*

*Check all that apply:*

**Original**  **Amendment**   
**Correction**  **Substitute**

**Date** 2/7/2024

**Bill No:** HM 42

**Agency Name  
and Code**

EMNRD-521

**Sponsor:** Rep. Szczepanski

**Number:**

**Short** Methane Emission Task Force

**Person Writing Analysis:** AnnaLinden Weller, Policy Director

**Title:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT**

**APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)**

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY24	FY25		

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

**REVENUE (dollars in thousands)**

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY24	FY25	FY26		

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

**ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)**

	<b>FY24</b>	<b>FY25</b>	<b>FY26</b>	<b>3 Year Total Cost</b>	<b>Recurring or Nonrecurring</b>	<b>Fund Affected</b>
<b>Total</b>						

(Parenthesis ( ) Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates/Conflicts with/Companion to/Relates to: N/A  
Duplicates/Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act - Unknown

**SECTION III: NARRATIVE**

**BILL SUMMARY**

Synopsis: House Memorial 42 (HM 42) asks the Department of the Environment (NMED) to convene “a working group of state experts and stakeholders to develop proposals for rules and legislative recommendations that aim to reduce methane emissions relating to the production, transportation, and marketing of natural gas purchased by New Mexico’s regulated utilities.”

**FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

None specifically for EMNRD. It is possible that EMNRD senior staff and regulatory experts would need to devote some staff time to participation in the working group.

**SIGNIFICANT ISSUES**

HM 42 proposes to have NMED convene a working group to study methane emissions from natural gas-providing regulated utilities. This is an important area of emissions control to investigate, as methane emissions from the gas distribution system contribute to both human health concerns and global anthropogenic climate change.

EMNRD suggests that the memorial explicitly include the Pipeline Safety Bureau of the Public Regulation Commission as well as EMNRD as a whole (in its role as the State Energy Office and as the regulatory expert – though not the regulator – in utilities for the state) in the entities which must participate in the working group, as these are the likely ‘state experts’ that the memorial refers to.

**PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS**

See above.

**ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS**

See above.

**CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP**

N/A

**TECHNICAL ISSUES**

N/A

**OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES**

N/A

**ALTERNATIVES**

N/A

**WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL**

A working group on methane emissions from the gas distribution network will not be convened.

**AMENDMENTS**

None.