

Calendar No. 37

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION**S. 255****[Report No. 110-12]**

To provide assistance to the State of New Mexico for the development of comprehensive State water plans, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 10, 2007

Mr. DOMENICI (for himself and Mr. BINGAMAN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

FEBRUARY 15, 2007

Reported by Mr. BINGAMAN, without amendment

A BILL

To provide assistance to the State of New Mexico for the development of comprehensive State water plans, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “New Mexico Water
5 Planning Assistance Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

2 In this Act:

3 (1) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
4 the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Bu-
5 reau of Reclamation and the United States Geologi-
6 cal Survey.

7 (2) STATE.—The term “State” means the State
8 of New Mexico.

9 **SEC. 3. COMPREHENSIVE WATER PLAN ASSISTANCE.**

10 (a) IN GENERAL.—Upon the request of the Governor
11 of the State and subject to subsections (b) through (f),
12 the Secretary shall—

13 (1) provide to the State technical assistance
14 and grants for the development of comprehensive
15 State water plans;

16 (2) conduct water resources mapping in the
17 State; and

18 (3) conduct a comprehensive study of ground-
19 water resources (including potable, brackish, and sa-
20 line water resources) in the State to assess the
21 quantity, quality, and interaction of groundwater
22 and surface water resources.

23 (b) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—Technical assistance
24 provided under subsection (a) may include—

1 (1) acquisition of hydrologic data, groundwater
2 characterization, database development, and data
3 distribution;

4 (2) expansion of climate, surface water, and
5 groundwater monitoring networks;

6 (3) assessment of existing water resources, sur-
7 face water storage, and groundwater storage poten-
8 tial;

9 (4) numerical analysis and modeling necessary
10 to provide an integrated understanding of water re-
11 sources and water management options;

12 (5) participation in State planning forums and
13 planning groups;

14 (6) coordination of Federal water management
15 planning efforts;

16 (7) technical review of data, models, planning
17 scenarios, and water plans developed by the State;
18 and

19 (8) provision of scientific and technical special-
20 ists to support State and local activities.

21 (c) ALLOCATION.—In providing grants under sub-
22 section (a), the Secretary shall, subject to the availability
23 of appropriations, allocate—

24 (1) \$5,000,000 to develop hydrologic models
25 and acquire associated equipment for the New Mex-

1 ico Rio Grande main stem sections and Rios Pueblo
2 de Taos and Hondo, Rios Nambe, Pojoaque and
3 Teseque, Rio Chama, and Lower Rio Grande tribu-
4 taries;

5 (2) \$1,500,000 to complete the hydrographic
6 survey development of hydrologic models and acquire
7 associated equipment for the San Juan River and
8 tributaries;

9 (3) \$1,000,000 to complete the hydrographic
10 survey development of hydrologic models and acquire
11 associated equipment for Southwest New Mexico, in-
12 cluding the Animas Basin, the Gila River, and tribu-
13 taries;

14 (4) \$4,500,000 for statewide digital
15 orthophotography mapping; and

16 (5) such sums as are necessary to carry out ad-
17 ditional projects consistent with subsection (b).

18 (d) COST-SHARING REQUIREMENT.—

19 (1) IN GENERAL.—The non-Federal share of
20 the total cost of any activity carried out using a
21 grant provided under subsection (a) shall be 50 per-
22 cent.

23 (2) FORM OF NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—The non-
24 Federal share under paragraph (1) may be in the
25 form of any in-kind services that the Secretary de-

1 termines would contribute substantially toward the
2 conduct and completion of the activity assisted.

3 (e) **NON-REIMBURSABLE BASIS.**—Any assistance or
4 grants provided to the State under this Act shall be made
5 on a non-reimbursable basis.

6 (f) **AUTHORIZED TRANSFERS.**—On request of the
7 State, the Secretary shall directly transfer to 1 or more
8 Federal agencies any amounts made available to the State
9 to carry out this Act.

10 **SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

11 There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out
12 this Act \$3,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through
13 2012.

14 **SEC. 5. SUNSET OF AUTHORITY.**

15 The authority of the Secretary to carry out any provi-
16 sions of this Act shall terminate 10 years after the date
17 of the enactment of this Act.

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