

Calendar No. 253110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION**S. 324****[Report No. 110-112]**

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of water resources
in the State of New Mexico.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 17, 2007

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

JUNE 28, 2007

Reported by Mr. BINGAMAN, without amendment

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study
of water resources in the State of New Mexico.

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 Aquifer
5 Assessment Act of 2007”.

1 **SEC. 2. NEW MEXICO WATER RESOURCES STUDY.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Interior, act-
3 ing through the Director of the United States Geological
4 Survey (referred to in this Act as the “Secretary”), in co-
5 ordination with the State of New Mexico (referred to in
6 this Act as the “State”) and any other entities that the
7 Secretary determines to be appropriate (including other
8 Federal agencies and institutions of higher education),
9 shall, in accordance with this Act and any other applicable
10 law, conduct a study of water resources in the State, in-
11 cluding—

12 (1) a survey of groundwater resources, includ-
13 ing an analysis of—

14 (A) aquifers in the State, including the
15 quantity of water in the aquifers;

16 (B) the availability of groundwater re-
17 sources for human use;

18 (C) the salinity of groundwater resources;

19 (D) the potential of the groundwater re-
20 sources to recharge;

21 (E) the interaction between groundwater
22 and surface water;

23 (F) the susceptibility of the aquifers to
24 contamination; and

25 (G) any other relevant criteria; and

1 (2) a characterization of surface and bedrock
2 geology, including the effect of the geology on
3 groundwater yield and quality.

4 (b) STUDY AREAS.—The study carried out under
5 subsection (a) shall include the Estancia Basin, Salt
6 Basin, Tularosa Basin, Hueco Basin, and middle Rio
7 Grande Basin in the State.

8 (c) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the date
9 of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to
10 the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the
11 Senate and the Committee on Resources of the House of
12 Representatives a report that describes the results of the
13 study.

14 (d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
15 are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are nec-
16 essary to carry out this Act.

Calendar No. 253

110TH CONGRESS
1ST Session

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