

109TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 6088

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of water resources in the State of New Mexico, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 14, 2006

Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Resources

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of water resources in the State of New Mexico, 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 Aquifer
5 Assessment Act of 2006”.

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

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Interior, act-
8 ing through the Director of the United States Geological
9 Survey (referred to in this Act as the “Secretary”), in co-
10 ordination with the State of New Mexico (referred to in

1 this Act as the “State”), shall, in accordance with this
2 Act and any other applicable law, conduct a study of water
3 resources in the State, including the following:

4 (1) A survey of groundwater resources, includ-
5 ing an analysis of—

6 (A) aquifers in the State, including the
7 quantity of water in the aquifers;

8 (B) the availability of groundwater re-
9 sources for human use;

10 (C) the salinity of groundwater resources;

11 (D) the potential of the groundwater re-
12 sources to recharge;

13 (E) the interaction between groundwater
14 and surface water;

15 (F) the susceptibility of the aquifers to
16 contamination; and

17 (G) any other relevant criteria; and

18 (2) A characterization of surface and bedrock
19 geology, including the effect of the geology on
20 groundwater yield and quality.

21 (b) STUDY AREAS.—The study carried out under
22 subsection (a) shall include the Salt Basin, the Tularosa
23 Basin, and the middle Rio Grande Aquifer in the State.

24 (c) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the date
25 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit

1 to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of
2 the Senate and the Committee on Resources of the House
3 of Representatives a report that describes the results of
4 the study.

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

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