



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

October 3, 2008

H.R. 813 **Santa Ana River Water Supply Enhancement Act of 2008**

*As reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
on September 16, 2008*

SUMMARY

H.R. 813 would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to implement two water projects in California. Based on information from the Bureau of Reclamation, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 813 would cost \$30 million over the 2009-2013 period and an additional \$6 million after 2013, assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts. Enacting the legislation would not affect direct spending or revenues.

H.R. 813 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary impact of H.R. 813 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 300 (natural resources and environment).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars					2009-
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2013

CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION

Estimated Authorization Level	6	7	8	8	2	31
Estimated Outlays	4	6	8	8	4	30

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

For this estimate, CBO assumes that the legislation will be enacted near the start of fiscal year 2009 and that the necessary amounts will be appropriated each fiscal year. Estimates of outlays are based on information provided by the Bureau of Reclamation.

H.R. 813 would authorize the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Bureau of Reclamation, to design, plan, and construct two projects in California. The Secretary would be authorized to participate in the construction of natural treatment systems and wetlands in the Prado Basin in cooperation with the Orange County Water District. The Secretary also would be authorized to participate in the implementation of a desalination demonstration and reclamation project in conjunction with the Chino Basin Watermaster, the Inland Empire Utilities Agency, and the Santa Ana Watershed Authority.

CBO estimates that the Prado Basin project would cost about \$40 million, while the Lower Chino Basin project would cost \$104 million. Under the legislation, the federal share of all costs would be limited to 25 percent, and the Secretary would be prohibited from providing funds for operation and maintenance of the projects. CBO estimates that implementing the projects would cost \$30 million over the 2009-2013 period and an additional \$6 million thereafter. The authority of the Secretary to expend funds on either project would sunset 10 years after the date of enactment of this legislation.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

H.R. 813 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments. Several local governments would benefit from the projects authorized in this act. Any costs to those governments would be incurred voluntarily.

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