

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-30

LOCAL SUPPORT FOR WATER PLANNING FUNDING

WHEREAS, adequate water resources are a prerequisite to the health and economic wellbeing of New Mexico’s communities; and

WHEREAS, the New Mexico Legislature in 1987 determined that “the future water needs of New Mexico can best be met by allowing each region of the state to plan for its water future”; and

WHEREAS, the New Mexico Legislature also determined that “the state can assist the regions in planning future water use by implementing a state appropriation program to ensure an adequate supply of water for each region”; and

WHEREAS, the first regional water plan was completed and accepted by the Interstate Stream Commission in 1999 and the last regional water plan was completed and accepted by the Interstate Stream Commission in 2008; and

WHEREAS, regional water plans were drafted by many local organizations and represent collaborative strategies to address water needs; and

WHEREAS, regional water plans were reviewed and approved by many local governments in the state; and

WHEREAS, regional water plans outline the alternatives for closing the gap between available water supply and demand; and

WHEREAS, regional water plans are tools for better decision-making and water project implementation; and

WHEREAS, water is a fragile and finite resource; and

WHEREAS, drought and climate change further threaten New Mexico’s communities; and

WHEREAS, water supply and demand are not static but change continuously; and

WHEREAS, a number of changes have occurred since the regional water plans were accepted, such as new regulatory requirements, new hydrologic studies, changing population growth rates, and changes in water supply due to drought and climate change; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to develop better and more consistent hydrologic data and increased coordination among regions and associated basins; and

