BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center 76R7473 WP-D S.B. 1858 By: Nixon Natural Resources 5/5/1999 As Filed

DIGEST

The Toledo Bend Reservoir, along the Texas-Louisiana border, was developed for recreation, economic development, water conservation, tourism, and power generation. However, when the water level is below 168 feet mean sea level, most of these purposes are not possible. This bill would restrict hydro-electric power generation from the Toledo Bend Reservoir when the water level drops below 168 feet mean sea level, with certain exceptions.

PURPOSE

As proposed, S.B. 1858 restricts hydro-electric power generation from the Toledo Bend Reservoir when the water level drops below 168 feet mean sea level with certain exceptions.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Section 14(k), Article 8280-133, V.T.C.S., to prohibit the Sabine River Authority from controlling, storing, or employing the waters of the Toledo Bend Reservoir for the generation of hydro-electric power if the mean sea level of the reservoir is below 168 feet, with certain exceptions.

SECTION 2. Emergency clause. Effective date: upon passage.