

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center

S.B. 898
By: Averitt
Natural Resources
4/1/2003
As Filed

DIGEST AND PURPOSE

As proposed, S.B. 898 provides that certain municipal utility districts are not required to provide escrow funds to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) to secure bond financing for certain projects. This bill does not waive the requirement for municipal utility districts to provide engineering plans for proposed projects to TCEQ, nor does it impact TCEQ's authority to review the technical merits of proposed projects.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

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

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Section 49.181(h), Water Code, to provide that this section does not apply to a district if the district, on September 1, 2003: is a municipal utility district that includes territory in only two counties; has outstanding long-term indebtedness that is rated BBB or better by a nationally recognized rating agency for municipal securities; and has at least 5,000 active water connections.

SECTION 2. Makes application of this Act prospective.

SECTION 3. Effective date: upon passage or September 1, 2003.