



**CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE
COST ESTIMATE**

October 31, 2011

**H.R. 1461
Mescalero Apache Tribe Leasing Authorization Act**

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on October 5, 2011

H.R. 1461 would allow the Mescalero Apache Tribe of New Mexico to enter into a lease or other temporary conveyance of its water rights. H.R. 1461 would prevent the Mescalero Apache Tribe from permanently forfeiting their water rights and would authorize leases of no more than 99 years.

Based on information from the Department of the Interior, CBO expects that the legislation would have no significant impact on the agency's administrative costs. H.R. 1461 would have no effect on direct spending or revenues because any income resulting from additional leases would be paid directly to the Mescalero Apache Tribe. Therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures do not apply.

H.R. 1461 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Martin von Gnechten. The estimate was approved by Theresa Gullo, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.