

ANTICIPATED IMPACT OF THE WIPP CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION

5.0 LOCAL GOVERNMENT

There will be a need for local government to expand its service capabilities for police protection, fire protection, garbage collection, and other population-related services.

This need for services expansion will contribute to an already-existing problem. That problem has been identified in previous research as a discrepancy between the growth rate of revenues and expenditures. Revenues for New Mexico municipalities grow at a rate between 6 and 7 percent per year while expenditures grow at a rate between 10 and 11 percent per year. In addition to placing some pressure on existing capabilities to finance services, the WIPP project will require acceleration of planning processes for certain capital improvements; in particular, deficiencies have been noted in the City's ability to provide water. A water master plan should be prepared to identify how to improve and what kind of improvements should be made by the City of Carlsbad to solve water rights and withdrawal problems.