2010

1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to the Florida Keys Area; amending s.
3	215.619, F.S.; authorizing the issuance of bonds to be
4	used to finance the cost of constructing sewage facilities
5	in the Florida Keys Area; amending s. 380.0552, F.S.;
6	revising legislative intent relating to the designation of
7	the Florida Keys as an area of critical state concern;
8	revising the procedures for removing the designation;
9	providing for administrative review of such removal rather
10	than judicial review; authorizing the Administration
11	Commission to adopt rules or revise existing rules;
12	revising the principles guiding development; revising
13	compliance requirements for reviewing comprehensive plan
14	amendments; amending s. 381.0065, F.S.; providing
15	additional requirements for onsite sewage treatment and
16	disposal systems in Monroe County; amending s. 403.086,
17	F.S.; providing legislative findings and discharge
18	requirements for wastewater facilities in Monroe County;
19	repealing sections 4, 5, and 6 of ch. 99-395, Laws of
20	Florida, as amended, relating to sewage treatment in the
21	Florida Keys; providing an effective date.
22	
23	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
24	
25	Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 215.619, Florida
26	Statutes, is amended to read:
27	215.619 Bonds for Everglades restoration
28	(1) The issuance of Everglades restoration bonds to
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29 finance or refinance the cost of the acquisition and improvement 30 of land, water areas, and related property interests and 31 resources for the purpose of implementing the Comprehensive 32 Everglades Restoration Plan under s. 373.470, the Lake 33 Okeechobee Watershed Protection Plan under s. 373.4595, the 34 Caloosahatchee River Watershed Protection Plan under s. 35 373.4595, the St. Lucie River Watershed Protection Plan under s. 36 373.4595, and the Florida Keys Area of Critical State Concern 37 protection program under ss. 380.05 and 380.0552 in order to 38 restore and conserve natural systems through the implementation of water management projects, including wastewater management 39 40 projects identified in the "Keys Wastewater Plan," dated November 2007, and submitted to the Florida House of 41 42 Representatives on December 4, 2007, is authorized in accordance with s. 11(e), Art. VII of the State Constitution. 43

44 <u>(a)</u> Everglades restoration bonds, except refunding bonds, 45 may be issued only in fiscal years 2002-2003 through 2019-2020 46 and may not be issued in an amount exceeding \$100 million per 47 fiscal year unless:

48 <u>1.(a)</u> The Department of Environmental Protection has 49 requested additional amounts in order to achieve cost savings or 50 accelerate the purchase of land; or

51 <u>2.(b)</u> The Legislature authorizes an additional amount of 52 bonds not to exceed <u>\$200 million</u>, and limited to \$50 million per 53 fiscal year, for no more than 4 fiscal years, specifically for 54 the purpose of funding the Florida Keys Area of Critical State 55 Concern protection program. <u>Proceeds from the bonds shall be</u> 56 managed by the Department of Environmental Protection for the

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57 purpose of entering into financial assistance agreements with 58 local governments located in the Florida Keys Area of Critical 59 State Concern to finance or refinance the cost of constructing 60 sewage collection, treatment, and disposal facilities. 61 The duration of Everglades restoration bonds may not (b) 62 exceed 20 annual maturities, and those bonds must mature by 63 December 31, 2040. Except for refunding bonds, a series of bonds 64 may not be issued unless an amount equal to the debt service 65 coming due in the year of issuance has been appropriated by the Legislature. Beginning July 1, 2010, the Legislature shall 66 analyze the ratio of the state's debt to projected revenues 67 68 before authorizing the issuance of prior to the authorization to issue any bonds under this section. 69 70 Section 2. Subsections (2), (4), (7), and (9) of section 380.0552, Florida Statutes, are amended to read: 71 72 380.0552 Florida Keys Area; protection and designation as 73 area of critical state concern.-74 LEGISLATIVE INTENT.-It is hereby declared that the (2) 75 intent of the Legislature to is: 76 To Establish a land use management system that (a) 77 protects the natural environment of the Florida Keys. 78 To Establish a land use management system that (b) 79 conserves and promotes the community character of the Florida 80 Keys. 81 (C) To Establish a land use management system that 82 promotes orderly and balanced growth in accordance with the 83 capacity of available and planned public facilities and 84 services.

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85 To Provide for affordable housing in close proximity (d) 86 to places of employment in the Florida Keys. To Establish a land use management system that 87 (e) promotes and supports a diverse and sound economic base. 88 89 To Protect the constitutional rights of property (f) 90 owners to own, use, and dispose of their real property. 91 To Promote coordination and efficiency among (q) 92 governmental agencies that have with permitting jurisdiction 93 over land use activities in the Florida Keys. 94 (h) Promote an appropriate land acquisition and protection strategy for environmentally sensitive lands within the Florida 95 96 Keys. 97 Protect and improve the nearshore water quality of the (i) 98 Florida Keys through the construction and operation of 99 wastewater management facilities that meet the requirements of 100 ss. 381.0065(4)(1) and 403.086(10), as applicable. 101 Ensure that the population of the Florida Keys can be (j) 102 safely evacuated. 103 (4) REMOVAL OF DESIGNATION.-104 Between July 12, 2008, and August 30, 2008, the state (a) 105 land planning agency shall submit a written report to the 106 Administration Commission describing in detail the progress of 107 the Florida Keys Area toward accomplishing the tasks of the work 108 program as defined in paragraph (c) and providing a 109 recommendation as to whether substantial progress toward 110 accomplishing the tasks of the work program has been achieved. Subsequent to receipt of the report, the Administration 111 Commission shall determine, prior to October 1, 2008, whether 112 Page 4 of 38

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113 substantial progress has been achieved toward accomplishing the 114 tasks of the work program. The designation of the Florida Keys 115 Area as an area of critical state concern under this section may 116 be recommended for removal upon fulfilling the legislative 117 intent under subsection (2) and completion of all the work 118 program tasks specified in rules of the Administration 119 Commission shall be removed October 1, 2009, unless the 120 Administration Commission finds, after receipt of the state land 121 planning agency report, that substantial progress has not been achieved toward accomplishing the tasks of the work program. If 122 the designation of the Florida Keys Area as an area of critical 123 124 state concern is removed, the Administration Commission, within 125 60 days after removal of the designation, shall initiate rulemaking pursuant to chapter 120 to repeal any rules relating 126 127 to the designation of the Florida Keys Area as an area of 128 critical state concern. If, after receipt of the state land 129 planning agency's report, the Administration Commission finds 130 that substantial progress toward accomplishing the tasks of the 131 work program has not been achieved, the Administration 132 Commission shall provide a written report to the Monroe County 133 Commission within 30 days after making such finding detailing 134 the tasks under the work program that must be accomplished in 135 order for substantial progress to be achieved within the next 12 136 months. 137 Beginning November 30, 2010, the state land planning (b) agency shall annually submit a written report to the 138 139 Administration Commission describing the progress of the Florida 140 Keys Area toward completing the work program tasks specified in Page 5 of 38

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141 commission rules. The land planning agency shall recommend 142 removing the Florida Keys Area from being designated as an area 143 of critical state concern to the commission if it determines 144 that: 145 1. All of the work program tasks have been completed, 146 including construction of, operation of, and connection to 147 central wastewater management facilities pursuant to s. 148 403.086(10) and upgrade of onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems pursuant to s. 381.0065(4)(1); 149 150 2. All local comprehensive plans and land development 151 regulations and the administration of such plans and regulations 152 are adequate to protect the Florida Keys Area, fulfill the 153 legislative intent specified in subsection (2), and are 154 consistent with and further the principles guiding development; 155 and 156 3. A local government has adopted a resolution at a public 157 hearing recommending the removal of the designation. 158 (b) If the designation of the Florida Keys Area as an area 159 of critical state concern is not removed in accordance with 160 paragraph (a), the state land planning agency shall submit a written annual report to the Administration Commission on 161 162 November 1 of each year, until such time as the designation is 163 removed, describing the progress of the Florida Keys Area toward 164 accomplishing remaining tasks under the work program and 165 providing a recommendation as to whether substantial progress 166 toward accomplishing the tasks of the work program has been 167 achieved. The Administration Commission shall determine, within 168 days after receipt of the annual report, whether substantial Page 6 of 38

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169 progress has been achieved toward accomplishing the remaining 170 tasks of the work program. The designation of the Florida Keys 171 Area as an area of critical state concern under this section 172 shall be removed unless the Administration Commission finds that 173 substantial progress has not been achieved toward accomplishing 174 the tasks of the work program. If the designation of the Florida 175 critical state concern is Kevs Area as an area of -removed, the 176 Administration Commission, within 60 days after removal of the 177 designation, shall initiate rulemaking pursuant to chapter 120 to repeal any rules relating to the designation of the Florida 178 179 Keys Area as an area of critical state concern. If the 180 Administration Commission finds that substantial progress has 181 not been achieved, the Administration Commission shall provide 182 to the Monroe County Commission, within 30 days after making its 183 finding, a report detailing the tasks under the work program 184 that must be accomplished in order for substantial progress to 185 be achieved within the next 12 months. 186 After receipt of the state land planning agency report (C) 187 and recommendation, the Administration Commission shall 188 determine whether the requirements have been fulfilled and may 189 remove the designation of the Florida Keys as an area of 190 critical state concern. If the commission removes the 191 designation, it shall initiate rulemaking to repeal any rules 192 relating such designation within 60 days. If, after receipt of 193 the state land planning agency's report and recommendation, the 194 commission finds that the requirements for recommending removal of designation have not been met, the commission shall provide a 195 196 written report to the local governments within 30 days after

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197 making such a finding detailing the tasks that must be completed 198 by the local government.

199 (c) For purposes of this subsection, the term "work 200 program" means the 10-year work program as set forth in rule 28-201 20.110, Florida Administrative Code, on January 1, 2006, 202 excluding amendments to the work program that take effect after 203 January 1, 2006.

204 The determination of the Administration Commission's (d) 205 determination concerning the removal of the designation of the Florida Keys as an area of critical state concern Commission as 206 207 to whether substantial progress has been made toward 208 accomplishing the tasks of the work program may be judicially 209 reviewed pursuant to chapter 120 86. All proceedings shall be 210 conducted by the Division of Administrative Hearings and must be initiated within 30 days after the commission issues its 211 212 determination in the circuit court of the judicial circuit where 213 the Administration Commission maintains its headquarters and 214 shall be initiated within 30 days after rendition of the Administration Commission's determination. The Administration 215 Commission's determination as to whether substantial progress 216 217 has been made toward accomplishing the tasks of the work program 218 shall be upheld if it is supported by competent and substantial 219 evidence and shall not be subject to administrative review under 220 chapter 120.

(e) After removal of the designation <u>of the Florida Keys</u>
as an area of critical state concern, the state land planning
agency shall review proposed local comprehensive plans, and any
amendments to existing comprehensive plans, which are applicable

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to the Florida Keys Area, the boundaries of which were described in chapter 28-29, Florida Administrative Code, as of January 1, 2006, for compliance with subparagraphs 1. and 2., in addition to reviewing proposed local comprehensive plans and amendments for compliance as defined in s. 163.3184. All procedures and penalties described in s. 163.3184 apply to the review conducted pursuant to this paragraph.

232 1. Adoption of construction schedules for wastewater 233 facilities improvements in the annually adopted capital 234 improvements element and adoption of standards for the 235 construction of wastewater treatment facilities which meet or 236 exceed the criteria of chapter 99-395, Laws of Florida.

237 2. Adoption of goals, objectives, and policies to protect 238 public safety and welfare in the event of a natural disaster by 239 maintaining a hurricane evacuation clearance time for permanent 240 residents of no more than 24 hours. The hurricane evacuation 241 clearance time shall be determined by a hurricane evacuation 242 study conducted in accordance with a professionally accepted 243 methodology and approved by the state land planning agency.

244 (f) The Administration Commission may adopt rules or 245 revise existing rules as necessary to administer this 246 subsection.

(7) PRINCIPLES FOR GUIDING DEVELOPMENT.-State, regional,
 and local agencies and units of government in the Florida Keys
 Area shall coordinate their plans and conduct their programs and
 regulatory activities consistent with the principles for guiding
 development as <u>specified</u> set forth in chapter 27F-8, Florida
 Administrative Code, as amended effective August 23, 1984, which
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253 chapter is hereby adopted and incorporated herein by reference. 254 For the purposes of reviewing the consistency of the adopted 255 plan, or any amendments to that plan, with the principles for 256 guiding development, and any amendments to the principles, the 257 principles shall be construed as a whole and no specific 258 provisions may not provision shall be construed or applied in 259 isolation from the other provisions. However, the principles for 260 guiding development as set forth in chapter 27F-8, Florida 261 Administrative Code, as amended effective August 23, 1984, are repealed 18 months from July 1, 1986. After repeal, the 262 263 following shall be the principles with which any plan amendments 264 must be consistent with the following principles:

(a) <u>Strengthening</u> To strengthen local government
 capabilities for managing land use and development so that local
 government is able to achieve these objectives without
 <u>continuing</u> the continuation of the area of critical state
 concern designation.

(b) <u>Protecting To protect</u> shoreline and marine resources,
including mangroves, coral reef formations, seagrass beds,
wetlands, fish and wildlife, and their habitat.

(c) <u>Protecting To protect</u> upland resources, tropical
biological communities, freshwater wetlands, native tropical
vegetation (for example, hardwood hammocks and pinelands), dune
ridges and beaches, wildlife, and their habitat.

(d) <u>Ensuring</u> To ensure the maximum well-being of the Florida Keys and its citizens through sound economic development.

280 (e) Limiting To limit the adverse impacts of development Page 10 of 38

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281 on the quality of water throughout the Florida Keys. 282 (f) Enhancing To enhance natural scenic resources, 283 promoting promote the aesthetic benefits of the natural 284 environment, and ensuring ensure that development is compatible 285 with the unique historic character of the Florida Keys. 286 Protecting To protect the historical heritage of the (q) 287 Florida Keys. 288 Protecting To protect the value, efficiency, cost-(h) effectiveness, and amortized life of existing and proposed major 289 public investments, including: 290 291 1. The Florida Keys Aqueduct and water supply facilities; 292 2. Sewage collection, treatment, and disposal facilities; 293 Solid waste collection, treatment, and disposal 3. 294 facilities; 295 4. Key West Naval Air Station and other military 296 facilities; 297 Transportation facilities; 5. 298 Federal parks, wildlife refuges, and marine 6. 299 sanctuaries; 300 State parks, recreation facilities, aquatic preserves, 7. 301 and other publicly owned properties; 302 8. City electric service and the Florida Keys Electric Co-303 op; and 304 Other utilities, as appropriate. 9. 305 (i) Protecting and improving water quality by providing for the construction, operation, maintenance, and replacement of 306 307 stormwater management facilities; central sewage collection; 308 treatment and disposal facilities; and the installation and

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309 proper operation and maintenance of onsite sewage treatment and 310 disposal systems. (j) Ensuring the improvement of nearshore water quality by 311 312 requiring the construction and operation of wastewater 313 management facilities that meet the requirements of s. 314 381.0065(4)(1) and s. 403.086(10), as applicable, and by 315 directing growth to areas served by central wastewater treatment 316 facilities through permit allocation systems. 317 (k) (i) Limiting To limit the adverse impacts of public 318 investments on the environmental resources of the Florida Keys. 319 (1) (j) Making To make available adequate affordable 320 housing for all sectors of the population of the Florida Keys. 321 (m) (k) Providing To provide adequate alternatives for the 322 protection of public safety and welfare in the event of a natural or manmade disaster and for a postdisaster 323 324 reconstruction plan. 325 (n) (1) Protecting To protect the public health, safety, 326 and welfare of the citizens of the Florida Keys and maintain the 327 Florida Keys as a unique Florida resource. 328 (9) MODIFICATION TO PLANS AND REGULATIONS.-329 Any land development regulation or element of a local (a) 330 comprehensive plan in the Florida Keys Area may be enacted, 331 amended, or rescinded by a local government, but the enactment, 332 amendment, or rescission becomes shall become effective only upon the approval thereof by the state land planning agency. The 333 334 state land planning agency shall review the proposed change to determine if it is in compliance with the principles for guiding 335 336 development specified set forth in chapter 27F-8, Florida

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337 Administrative Code, as amended effective August 23, 1984, and 338 must shall either approve or reject the requested changes within 339 60 days after of receipt thereof. Amendments to local 340 comprehensive plans in the Florida Keys Area must also be 341 reviewed for compliance with the following: 342 1. Construction schedules and detailed capital financing 343 plans for wastewater management improvements in the annually adopted capital improvements element, and standards for the 344 345 construction of wastewater treatment and disposal facilities or 346 collection systems that meet or exceed the criteria in s. 347 403.086(10) for wastewater treatment and disposal facilities or 348 s. 381.0065(4)(1) for onsite sewage treatment and disposal 349 systems.

350 <u>2. Goals, objectives, and policies to protect public</u> 351 <u>safety and welfare in the event of a natural disaster by</u> 352 <u>maintaining a hurricane evacuation clearance time for permanent</u> 353 <u>residents of no more than 24 hours. The hurricane evacuation</u> 354 <u>clearance time shall be determined by a hurricane evacuation</u> 355 <u>study conducted in accordance with a professionally accepted</u> 356 <u>methodology and approved by the state land planning agency.</u>

357 (b) Further, The state land planning agency, after 358 consulting with the appropriate local government, may, no more 359 often than once per a year, recommend to the Administration 360 Commission the enactment, amendment, or rescission of a land development regulation or element of a local comprehensive plan. 361 Within 45 days following the receipt of such recommendation by 362 the state land planning agency, the commission shall reject the 363 364 recommendation, or accept it with or without modification and

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365 adopt it, by rule, including any changes. Any Such local 366 development regulation or plan <u>must</u> shall be in compliance with 367 the principles for guiding development.

368 Section 3. Paragraph (1) of subsection (4) of section 369 381.0065, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

370 381.0065 Onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems;
 371 regulation.-

372 PERMITS; INSTALLATION; AND CONDITIONS.-A person may (4) 373 not construct, repair, modify, abandon, or operate an onsite 374 sewage treatment and disposal system without first obtaining a 375 permit approved by the department. The department may issue 376 permits to carry out this section, but shall not make the issuance of such permits contingent upon prior approval by the 377 378 Department of Environmental Protection, except that the issuance 379 of a permit for work seaward of the coastal construction control 380 line established under s. 161.053 shall be contingent upon 381 receipt of any required coastal construction control line permit 382 from the Department of Environmental Protection. A construction 383 permit is valid for 18 months from the issuance date and may be 384 extended by the department for one 90-day period under rules 385 adopted by the department. A repair permit is valid for 90 days following from the date of issuance. An operating permit must be 386 387 obtained prior to the use of any aerobic treatment unit or if 388 the establishment generates commercial waste. Buildings or establishments that use an aerobic treatment unit or generate 389 390 commercial waste shall be inspected by the department at least 391 annually to assure compliance with the terms of the operating 392 permit. The operating permit for a commercial wastewater system

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393 is valid for 1 year from the date of issuance and must be 394 renewed annually. The operating permit for an aerobic treatment 395 unit is valid for 2 years from the date of issuance and must be 396 renewed every 2 years. If all information pertaining to the 397 siting, location, and installation conditions or repair of an 398 onsite sewage treatment and disposal system remains the same, a 399 construction or repair permit for the onsite sewage treatment 400 and disposal system may be transferred to another person, if the 401 transferee files, within 60 days after the transfer of 402 ownership, an amended application providing all corrected 403 information and proof of ownership of the property. There is no 404 fee associated with the processing of this supplemental 405 information. A person may not contract to construct, modify, 406 alter, repair, service, abandon, or maintain any portion of an onsite sewage treatment and disposal system without being 407 408 registered under part III of chapter 489. A property owner who 409 personally performs construction, maintenance, or repairs to a 410 system serving his or her own owner-occupied single-family 411 residence is exempt from registration requirements for 412 performing such construction, maintenance, or repairs on that 413 residence, but is subject to all permitting requirements. A 414 municipality or political subdivision of the state may not issue 415 a building or plumbing permit for any building that requires the use of an onsite sewage treatment and disposal system unless the 416 owner or builder has received a construction permit for such 417 system from the department. A building or structure may not be 418 occupied and a municipality, political subdivision, or any state 419 or federal agency may not authorize occupancy until the 420 Page 15 of 38

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421 department approves the final installation of the onsite sewage 422 treatment and disposal system. A municipality or political 423 subdivision of the state may not approve any change in occupancy 424 or tenancy of a building that uses an onsite sewage treatment 425 and disposal system until the department has reviewed the use of 426 the system with the proposed change, approved the change, and 427 amended the operating permit.

428 Subdivisions and lots in which each lot has a minimum (a) 429 area of at least one-half acre and either a minimum dimension of 100 feet or a mean of at least 100 feet of the side bordering 430 431 the street and the distance formed by a line parallel to the 432 side bordering the street drawn between the two most distant 433 points of the remainder of the lot may be developed with a water 434 system regulated under s. 381.0062 and onsite sewage treatment 435 and disposal systems, provided the projected daily sewage flow 436 does not exceed an average of 1,500 gallons per acre per day, 437 and provided satisfactory drinking water can be obtained and all 438 distance and setback, soil condition, water table elevation, and 439 other related requirements of this section and rules adopted 440 under this section can be met.

441 Subdivisions and lots using a public water system as (b) 442 defined in s. 403.852 may use onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems, provided there are no more than four lots per 443 444 acre, provided the projected daily sewage flow does not exceed an average of 2,500 gallons per acre per day, and provided that 445 all distance and setback, soil condition, water table elevation, 446 447 and other related requirements that are generally applicable to the use of onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems are met. 448

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449 Notwithstanding paragraphs (a) and (b), for (C) 450 subdivisions platted of record on or before October 1, 1991, 451 when a developer or other appropriate entity has previously made 452 or makes provisions, including financial assurances or other 453 commitments, acceptable to the Department of Health, that a 454 central water system will be installed by a regulated public 455 utility based on a density formula, private potable wells may be 456 used with onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems until the 457 agreed-upon densities are reached. In a subdivision regulated by 458 this paragraph, the average daily sewage flow may not exceed 459 2,500 gallons per acre per day. This section does not affect the 460 validity of existing prior agreements. After October 1, 1991, the exception provided under this paragraph is not available to 461 462 a developer or other appropriate entity.

(d) Paragraphs (a) and (b) do not apply to any proposed residential subdivision with more than 50 lots or to any proposed commercial subdivision with more than 5 lots where a publicly owned or investor-owned sewerage system is available. It is the intent of this paragraph not to allow development of additional proposed subdivisions in order to evade the requirements of this paragraph.

(e) Onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems must notbe placed closer than:

472

1. Seventy-five feet from a private potable well.

473 2. Two hundred feet from a public potable well serving a
474 residential or nonresidential establishment having a total
475 sewage flow of greater than 2,000 gallons per day.

476 3. One hundred feet from a public potable well serving a Page 17 of 38

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477 residential or nonresidential establishment having a total478 sewage flow of less than or equal to 2,000 gallons per day.

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4. Fifty feet from any nonpotable well.

480 5. Ten feet from any storm sewer pipe, to the maximum
481 extent possible, but in no instance shall the setback be less
482 than 5 feet.

4836. Seventy-five feet from the mean high-water line of a484484484484

485 7. Seventy-five feet from the mean annual flood line of a486 permanent nontidal surface water body.

8. Fifteen feet from the design high-water line of retention areas, detention areas, or swales designed to contain standing or flowing water for less than 72 hours after a rainfall or the design high-water level of normally dry drainage ditches or normally dry individual lot stormwater retention areas.

(f) Except as provided under paragraphs (e) and (t), no limitations shall be imposed by rule, relating to the distance between an onsite disposal system and any area that either permanently or temporarily has visible surface water.

(g) All provisions of this section and rules adopted under this section relating to soil condition, water table elevation, distance, and other setback requirements must be equally applied to all lots, with the following exceptions:

1. Any residential lot that was platted and recorded on or after January 1, 1972, or that is part of a residential subdivision that was approved by the appropriate permitting agency on or after January 1, 1972, and that was eligible for an

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505 onsite sewage treatment and disposal system construction permit 506 on the date of such platting and recording or approval shall be 507 eligible for an onsite sewage treatment and disposal system 508 construction permit, regardless of when the application for a 509 permit is made. If rules in effect at the time the permit 510 application is filed cannot be met, residential lots platted and 511 recorded or approved on or after January 1, 1972, shall, to the 512 maximum extent possible, comply with the rules in effect at the 513 time the permit application is filed. At a minimum, however, those residential lots platted and recorded or approved on or 514 515 after January 1, 1972, but before January 1, 1983, shall comply 516 with those rules in effect on January 1, 1983, and those residential lots platted and recorded or approved on or after 517 518 January 1, 1983, shall comply with those rules in effect at the 519 time of such platting and recording or approval. In determining 520 the maximum extent of compliance with current rules that is 521 possible, the department shall allow structures and 522 appurtenances thereto which were authorized at the time such 523 lots were platted and recorded or approved.

2. Lots platted before 1972 are subject to a 50-foot minimum surface water setback and are not subject to lot size requirements. The projected daily flow for onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems for lots platted before 1972 may not exceed:

529a. Two thousand five hundred gallons per acre per day for530lots served by public water systems as defined in s. 403.852.

531 b. One thousand five hundred gallons per acre per day for 532 lots served by water systems regulated under s. 381.0062.

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533 (h)1. The department may grant variances in hardship cases 534 which may be less restrictive than the provisions specified in 535 this section. If a variance is granted and the onsite sewage 536 treatment and disposal system construction permit has been 537 issued, the variance may be transferred with the system 538 construction permit, if the transferee files, within 60 days 539 after the transfer of ownership, an amended construction permit 540 application providing all corrected information and proof of 541 ownership of the property and if the same variance would have 542 been required for the new owner of the property as was 543 originally granted to the original applicant for the variance. 544 There is no fee associated with the processing of this 545 supplemental information. A variance may not be granted under 546 this section until the department is satisfied that:

547 a. The hardship was not caused intentionally by the action 548 of the applicant;

549 b. No reasonable alternative, taking into consideration 550 factors such as cost, exists for the treatment of the sewage; 551 and

552 c. The discharge from the onsite sewage treatment and 553 disposal system will not adversely affect the health of the 554 applicant or the public or significantly degrade the groundwater 555 or surface waters.

556

557 Where soil conditions, water table elevation, and setback 558 provisions are determined by the department to be satisfactory, 559 special consideration must be given to those lots platted before 560 1972.

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561 2. The department shall appoint and staff a variance 562 review and advisory committee, which shall meet monthly to 563 recommend agency action on variance requests. The committee 564 shall make its recommendations on variance requests at the 565 meeting in which the application is scheduled for consideration, 566 except for an extraordinary change in circumstances, the receipt 567 of new information that raises new issues, or when the applicant 568 requests an extension. The committee shall consider the criteria 569 in subparagraph 1. in its recommended agency action on variance 570 requests and shall also strive to allow property owners the full use of their land where possible. The committee consists of the 571 572 following:

573

a. The Division Director for Environmental Health of the department or his or her designee.

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b. A representative from the county health departments.

576 c. A representative from the home building industry 577 recommended by the Florida Home Builders Association.

578d. A representative from the septic tank industry579recommended by the Florida Onsite Wastewater Association.

580 e. A representative from the Department of Environmental581 Protection.

582 f. A representative from the real estate industry who is 583 also a developer in this state who develops lots using onsite 584 sewage treatment and disposal systems, recommended by the 585 Florida Association of Realtors.

586 g. A representative from the engineering profession587 recommended by the Florida Engineering Society.

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589 Members shall be appointed for a term of 3 years, with such 590 appointments being staggered so that the terms of no more than 591 two members expire in any one year. Members shall serve without 592 remuneration, but if requested, shall be reimbursed for per diem 593 and travel expenses as provided in s. 112.061.

594 A construction permit may not be issued for an onsite (i) 595 sewage treatment and disposal system in any area zoned or used 596 for industrial or manufacturing purposes, or its equivalent, 597 where a publicly owned or investor-owned sewage treatment system 598 is available, or where a likelihood exists that the system will receive toxic, hazardous, or industrial waste. An existing 599 600 onsite sewage treatment and disposal system may be repaired if a publicly owned or investor-owned sewerage system is not 601 602 available within 500 feet of the building sewer stub-out and if 603 system construction and operation standards can be met. This 604 paragraph does not require publicly owned or investor-owned 605 sewerage treatment systems to accept anything other than 606 domestic wastewater.

607 1. A building located in an area zoned or used for 608 industrial or manufacturing purposes, or its equivalent, when 609 such building is served by an onsite sewage treatment and 610 disposal system, must not be occupied until the owner or tenant 611 has obtained written approval from the department. The 612 department shall not grant approval when the proposed use of the system is to dispose of toxic, hazardous, or industrial 613 wastewater or toxic or hazardous chemicals. 614

615 2. Each person who owns or operates a business or facility616 in an area zoned or used for industrial or manufacturing

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617 purposes, or its equivalent, or who owns or operates a business 618 that has the potential to generate toxic, hazardous, or 619 industrial wastewater or toxic or hazardous chemicals, and uses 620 an onsite sewage treatment and disposal system that is installed 621 on or after July 5, 1989, must obtain an annual system operating 622 permit from the department. A person who owns or operates a 623 business that uses an onsite sewage treatment and disposal 624 system that was installed and approved before July 5, 1989, need 625 not obtain a system operating permit. However, upon change of 626 ownership or tenancy, the new owner or operator must notify the 627 department of the change, and the new owner or operator must 628 obtain an annual system operating permit, regardless of the date 629 that the system was installed or approved.

630 3. The department shall periodically review and evaluate 631 the continued use of onsite sewage treatment and disposal 632 systems in areas zoned or used for industrial or manufacturing 633 purposes, or its equivalent, and may require the collection and 634 analyses of samples from within and around such systems. If the 635 department finds that toxic or hazardous chemicals or toxic, 636 hazardous, or industrial wastewater have been or are being 637 disposed of through an onsite sewage treatment and disposal 638 system, the department shall initiate enforcement actions 639 against the owner or tenant to ensure adequate cleanup, 640 treatment, and disposal.

(j) An onsite sewage treatment and disposal system for a
single-family residence that is designed by a professional
engineer registered in the state and certified by such engineer
as complying with performance criteria adopted by the department

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645 must be approved by the department subject to the following: 646 1. The performance criteria applicable to engineer-647 designed systems must be limited to those necessary to ensure 648 that such systems do not adversely affect the public health or 649 significantly degrade the groundwater or surface water. Such 650 performance criteria shall include consideration of the quality 651 of system effluent, the proposed total sewage flow per acre, 652 wastewater treatment capabilities of the natural or replaced 653 soil, water quality classification of the potential surface-654 water-receiving body, and the structural and maintenance 655 viability of the system for the treatment of domestic 656 wastewater. However, performance criteria shall address only the performance of a system and not a system's design. 657

658 2. The technical review and advisory panel shall assist
659 the department in the development of performance criteria
660 applicable to engineer-designed systems.

661 A person electing to utilize an engineer-designed 3. 662 system shall, upon completion of the system design, submit such 663 design, certified by a registered professional engineer, to the 664 county health department. The county health department may 665 utilize an outside consultant to review the engineer-designed 666 system, with the actual cost of such review to be borne by the 667 applicant. Within 5 working days after receiving an engineer-668 designed system permit application, the county health department shall request additional information if the application is not 669 complete. Within 15 working days after receiving a complete 670 application for an engineer-designed system, the county health 671 672 department either shall issue the permit or, if it determines

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673 that the system does not comply with the performance criteria, 674 shall notify the applicant of that determination and refer the 675 application to the department for a determination as to whether 676 the system should be approved, disapproved, or approved with 677 modification. The department engineer's determination shall 678 prevail over the action of the county health department. The 679 applicant shall be notified in writing of the department's 680 determination and of the applicant's rights to pursue a variance 681 or seek review under the provisions of chapter 120.

682 The owner of an engineer-designed performance-based 4. 683 system must maintain a current maintenance service agreement 684 with a maintenance entity permitted by the department. The 685 maintenance entity shall obtain a biennial system operating 686 permit from the department for each system under service 687 contract. The department shall inspect the system at least 688 annually, or on such periodic basis as the fee collected 689 permits, and may collect system-effluent samples if appropriate 690 to determine compliance with the performance criteria. The fee 691 for the biennial operating permit shall be collected beginning 692 with the second year of system operation. The maintenance entity 693 shall inspect each system at least twice each year and shall 694 report quarterly to the department on the number of systems 695 inspected and serviced.

5. If an engineer-designed system fails to properly
function or fails to meet performance standards, the system
shall be re-engineered, if necessary, to bring the system into
compliance with the provisions of this section.

700

(k) An innovative system may be approved in conjunction Page 25 of 38

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701 with an engineer-designed site-specific system which is 702 certified by the engineer to meet the performance-based criteria 703 adopted by the department.

For the Florida Keys, the department shall adopt a 704 (1) 705 special rule for the construction, installation, modification, 706 operation, repair, maintenance, and performance of onsite sewage 707 treatment and disposal systems which considers the unique soil 708 conditions and which considers water table elevations, 709 densities, and setback requirements. On lots where a setback distance of 75 feet from surface waters, saltmarsh, and 710 711 buttonwood association habitat areas cannot be met, an injection 712 well, approved and permitted by the department, may be used for 713 disposal of effluent from onsite sewage treatment and disposal 714 systems. The following additional requirements apply to onsite 715 sewage treatment and disposal systems in Monroe County: 716 1. The county, each municipality, and those special districts established for the purpose of the collection, 717 718 transmission, treatment, or disposal of sewage shall ensure, in 719 accordance with the specific schedules adopted by the 720 Administration Commission under s. 380.0552, the completion of 721 onsite sewage treatment and disposal system upgrades to meet the 722 requirements of this paragraph. 723 2. Onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems must cease

724 discharge by December 31, 2015, or must comply with department 725 rules and provide the level of treatment which, on a permitted annual average basis, produces an effluent that contains no more 726 727 than the following concentrations: a. Biochemical Oxygen Demand (CBOD5) of 10 mg/l.

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729	b. Suspended Solids of 10 mg/l.
730	c. Total Nitrogen, expressed as N, of 10 mg/l.
731	d. Total Phosphorus, expressed as P, of 1 mg/l.
732	
733	In addition, onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems
734	discharging to an injection well must provide basic disinfection
735	as defined by department rule.
736	3. On or after July 1, 2010, all new, modified, and
737	repaired onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems must
738	provide the level of treatment described in subparagraph 2.
739	However, in areas scheduled to be served by central sewer by
740	December 31, 2015, if the property owner has paid a connection
741	fee or assessment for connection to the central sewer system, an
742	onsite sewage treatment and disposal system may be repaired to
743	the following minimum standards:
744	a. The existing tanks must be pumped and inspected and
745	certified as being watertight and free of defects in accordance
746	with department rule; and
747	b. A sand-lined drainfield or injection well in accordance
748	with department rule must be installed.
749	4. Onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems must be
750	monitored for total nitrogen and total phosphorus concentrations
751	as required by department rule.
752	5. The department shall enforce proper installation,
753	operation, and maintenance of onsite sewage treatment and
754	disposal systems pursuant to this chapter, including ensuring
755	that the appropriate level of treatment described in
756	subparagraph 2. is met.

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757 <u>6. The county, each municipality, and those special</u>
758 <u>districts established for the purpose of collection,</u>
759 <u>transmission, treatment, or disposal of sewage may require</u>
760 <u>connecting onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems to a</u>
761 <u>central sewer system within 30 days after notice of availability</u>
762 of service.

763 (m) No product sold in the state for use in onsite sewage 764 treatment and disposal systems may contain any substance in 765 concentrations or amounts that would interfere with or prevent the successful operation of such system, or that would cause 766 767 discharges from such systems to violate applicable water quality 768 standards. The department shall publish criteria for products known or expected to meet the conditions of this paragraph. In 769 770 the event a product does not meet such criteria, such product 771 may be sold if the manufacturer satisfactorily demonstrates to 772 the department that the conditions of this paragraph are met.

773 Evaluations for determining the seasonal high-water (n) 774 table elevations or the suitability of soils for the use of a 775 new onsite sewage treatment and disposal system shall be 776 performed by department personnel, professional engineers 777 registered in the state, or such other persons with expertise, 778 as defined by rule, in making such evaluations. Evaluations for 779 determining mean annual flood lines shall be performed by those 780 persons identified in paragraph (2)(i). The department shall 781 accept evaluations submitted by professional engineers and such other persons as meet the expertise established by this section 782 or by rule unless the department has a reasonable scientific 783 784 basis for questioning the accuracy or completeness of the

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785 evaluation.

(o) The department shall appoint a research review and advisory committee, which shall meet at least semiannually. The committee shall advise the department on directions for new research, review and rank proposals for research contracts, and review draft research reports and make comments. The committee is comprised of:

792 1. A representative of the Division of Environmental793 Health of the Department of Health.

794

2. A representative from the septic tank industry.

3. A representative from the home building industry.

795 796

4. A representative from an environmental interest group.

797 5. A representative from the State University System, from
798 a department knowledgeable about onsite sewage treatment and
799 disposal systems.

800 6. A professional engineer registered in this state who
801 has work experience in onsite sewage treatment and disposal
802 systems.

803 7. A representative from local government who is804 knowledgeable about domestic wastewater treatment.

805 806 8. A representative from the real estate profession.

9. A representative from the restaurant industry.

10. A consumer.

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Members shall be appointed for a term of 3 years, with the appointments being staggered so that the terms of no more than four members expire in any one year. Members shall serve without remuneration, but are entitled to reimbursement for per diem and

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813 travel expenses as provided in s. 112.061.

814 (p) An application for an onsite sewage treatment and 815 disposal system permit shall be completed in full, signed by the 816 owner or the owner's authorized representative, or by a 817 contractor licensed under chapter 489, and shall be accompanied 818 by all required exhibits and fees. No specific documentation of 819 property ownership shall be required as a prerequisite to the review of an application or the issuance of a permit. The 820 821 issuance of a permit does not constitute determination by the 822 department of property ownership.

(q) The department may not require any form of subdivision analysis of property by an owner, developer, or subdivider prior to submission of an application for an onsite sewage treatment and disposal system.

(r) Nothing in this section limits the power of a
municipality or county to enforce other laws for the protection
of the public health and safety.

(s) In the siting of onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems, including drainfields, shoulders, and slopes, guttering shall not be required on single-family residential dwelling units for systems located greater than 5 feet from the roof drip line of the house. If guttering is used on residential dwelling units, the downspouts shall be directed away from the drainfield.

(t) Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph (g)1., onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems located in floodways of the Suwannee and Aucilla Rivers must adhere to the following requirements:

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841 The absorption surface of the drainfield shall not be 1. 842 subject to flooding based on 10-year flood elevations. Provided, 843 however, for lots or parcels created by the subdivision of land 844 in accordance with applicable local government regulations prior 845 to January 17, 1990, if an applicant cannot construct a 846 drainfield system with the absorption surface of the drainfield 847 at an elevation equal to or above 10-year flood elevation, the 848 department shall issue a permit for an onsite sewage treatment 849 and disposal system within the 10-year floodplain of rivers, streams, and other bodies of flowing water if all of the 850 851 following criteria are met:

852

a. The lot is at least one-half acre in size;

b. The bottom of the drainfield is at least 36 inchesabove the 2-year flood elevation; and

855 The applicant installs either: a waterless, с. 856 incinerating, or organic waste composting toilet and a graywater 857 system and drainfield in accordance with department rules; an 858 aerobic treatment unit and drainfield in accordance with 859 department rules; a system approved by the State Health Office 860 that is capable of reducing effluent nitrate by at least 50 861 percent; or a system approved by the county health department 862 pursuant to department rule other than a system using 863 alternative drainfield materials. The United States Department 864 of Agriculture Soil Conservation Service soil maps, State of 865 Florida Water Management District data, and Federal Emergency 866 Management Agency Flood Insurance maps are resources that shall be used to identify flood-prone areas. 867

868

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The use of fill or mounding to elevate a drainfield

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869 system out of the 10-year floodplain of rivers, streams, or 870 other bodies of flowing water shall not be permitted if such a 871 system lies within a regulatory floodway of the Suwannee and 872 Aucilla Rivers. In cases where the 10-year flood elevation does 873 not coincide with the boundaries of the regulatory floodway, the 874 regulatory floodway will be considered for the purposes of this 875 subsection to extend at a minimum to the 10-year flood elevation. 876

877 (u) The owner of an aerobic treatment unit system shall 878 maintain a current maintenance service agreement with an aerobic 879 treatment unit maintenance entity permitted by the department. 880 The maintenance entity shall obtain a system operating permit 881 from the department for each aerobic treatment unit under 882 service contract. The maintenance entity shall inspect each 883 aerobic treatment unit system at least twice each year and shall 884 report quarterly to the department on the number of aerobic 885 treatment unit systems inspected and serviced. The owner shall 886 allow the department to inspect during reasonable hours each 887 aerobic treatment unit system at least annually, and such 888 inspection may include collection and analysis of system-889 effluent samples for performance criteria established by rule of 890 the department.

(v) The department may require the submission of detailed system construction plans that are prepared by a professional engineer registered in this state. The department shall establish by rule criteria for determining when such a submission is required.

896 Section 4. Subsection (10) is added to section 403.086, Page 32 of 38

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897 Florida Statutes, to read: 898 403.086 Sewage disposal facilities; advanced and secondary 899 waste treatment.-900 (10) The Legislature finds that the discharge of 901 inadequately treated and managed domestic wastewater from dozens 902 of small wastewater facilities and thousands of septic tanks and 903 other onsite systems in the Florida Keys compromises the quality of the coastal environment, including nearshore and offshore 904 905 waters, and threatens the quality of life and local economies that depend on those resources. The Legislature also finds that 906 907 the only practical and cost-effective way to fundamentally 908 improve wastewater management in the Florida Keys is for the 909 local governments in Monroe County, including those special 910 districts established for the purpose of collection, 911 transmission, treatment, or disposal of sewage, to timely 912 complete the wastewater or sewage treatment and disposal 913 facilities initiated under the work program of Administration 914 Commission rule 28-20, Florida Administrative Code, and the 915 Monroe County Sanitary Master Wastewater Plan, dated June 2000. 916 The Legislature therefore declares that the construction and 917 operation of comprehensive central wastewater systems in 918 accordance with this subsection is in the public interest. To 919 give effect to those findings, the requirements of this subsection apply to all domestic wastewater facilities in Monroe 920 921 County, including privately owned facilities, unless otherwise 922 provided under this subsection. 923 (a) The discharge of domestic wastewater into surface 924 waters is prohibited.

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925 (b) Monroe County, each municipality, and those special 926 districts established for the purpose of collection, 927 transmission, treatment, or disposal of sewage in Monroe County 928 shall complete the wastewater collection, treatment, and 929 disposal facilities within its jurisdiction designated as hot 930 spots in the Monroe County Sanitary Master Wastewater Plan, 931 dated June 2000, specifically listed in Exhibits 6-1 through 6-3 932 of Chapter 6 of the plan and mapped in Exhibit F-1 of Appendix F 933 of the plan. The required facilities and connections, and any 934 additional facilities or other adjustments required by rules 935 adopted by the Administration Commission under s. 380.0552, must 936 be completed by December 31, 2015, pursuant to specific 937 schedules established by the commission. Domestic wastewater 938 facilities located outside local government and special district 939 service areas must meet the treatment and disposal requirements 940 of this subsection by December 31, 2015. 941 (c) After December 31, 2015, all new or expanded domestic 942 wastewater discharges must comply with the treatment and 943 disposal requirements of this subsection and department rules. 944 (d) Wastewater treatment facilities having design 945 capacities: 946 1. Greater than or equal to 100,000 gallons per day must 947 provide basic disinfection as defined by department rule and the 948 level of treatment which, on a permitted annual average basis, 949 produces an effluent that contains no more than the following 950 concentrations: 951 a. Biochemical Oxygen Demand (CBOD5) of 5 mg/l. 952 b. Suspended Solids of 5 mg/l. Page 34 of 38

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953	c. Total Nitrogen, expressed as N, of 3 mg/l.
954	d. Total Phosphorus, expressed as P, of 1 mg/l.
955	2. Less than 100,000 gallons per day must provide basic
956	disinfection as defined by department rule and the level of
957	treatment which, on a permitted annual average basis, produces
958	an effluent that contains no more than the following
959	concentrations:
960	a. Biochemical Oxygen Demand (CBOD5) of 10 mg/l.
961	b. Suspended Solids of 10 mg/l.
962	c. Total Nitrogen, expressed as N, of 10 mg/l.
963	d. Total Phosphorus, expressed as P, of 1 mg/l.
964	(e) Class V injection wells, as defined by department or
965	Department of Health rule, must meet the following requirements
966	and otherwise comply with department or Department of Health
967	rules, as applicable:
968	1. If the design capacity of the facility is less than 1
969	million gallons per day, the injection well must be at least 90
970	feet deep and cased to a minimum depth of 60 feet or to such
971	greater cased depth and total well depth as may be required by
972	department rule.
973	2. Except as provided in subparagraph 3. for backup wells,
974	if the design capacity of the facility is equal to or greater
975	than 1 million gallons per day, each primary injection well must
976	be cased to a minimum depth of 2,000 feet or to such greater
977	depth as may be required by department rule.
978	3. If an injection well is used as a backup to a primary
979	injection well, the following conditions apply:
980	a. The backup well may be used only when the primary
I	

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981	injection well is out of service because of equipment failure,
982	power failure, or the need for mechanical integrity testing or
983	repair;
984	b. The backup well may not be used for more than a total
985	of 500 hours during any 5-year period unless specifically
986	authorized in writing by the department;
987	c. The backup well must be at least 90 feet deep and cased
988	to a minimum depth of 60 feet, or to such greater cased depth
989	and total well depth as may be required by department rule; and
990	d. Fluid injected into the backup well must meet the
991	requirements of paragraph (d).
992	(f) The requirements of paragraphs (d) and (e) do not
993	apply to:
994	1. Class I injection wells as defined by department rule,
995	including any authorized mechanical integrity tests;
996	2. Authorized mechanical integrity tests associated with
997	Class V wells as defined by department rule; or
998	3. The following types of reuse systems authorized by
999	department rule:
1000	a. Slow-rate land application systems;
1001	b. Industrial uses of reclaimed water; and
1002	c. Use of reclaimed water for toilet flushing, fire
1003	protection, vehicle washing, construction dust control, and
1004	decorative water features.
1005	
1006	However, disposal systems serving as backups to reuse systems
1007	must comply with the other provisions of this subsection.
1008	(g) For wastewater treatment facilities in operation as of
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1009	July 1, 2010, which are located within areas to be served by
1010	Monroe County, municipalities in Monroe County, or those special
1011	districts established for the purpose of collection,
1012	transmission, treatment, or disposal of sewage but which are
1013	owned by other entities, the requirements of paragraphs (d) and
1014	(e) do not apply until January 1, 2016. Wastewater operating
1015	permits issued pursuant to this chapter and in effect for these
1016	facilities as of June 30, 2010, are extended until December 31,
1017	2015, or until the facility is connected to a local government
1018	central wastewater system, whichever occurs first. Wastewater
1019	treatment facilities in operation after December 31, 2015, must
1020	comply with the treatment and disposal requirements of this
1021	subsection and department rules.
1022	(h) If it is demonstrated that a discharge, even if the
1023	discharge is otherwise in compliance with this subsection, will
1024	cause or contribute to a violation of state water quality
1025	standards, the department shall:
1026	1. Require more stringent effluent limitations;
1027	2. Order the point or method of discharge changed;
1028	3. Limit the duration or volume of the discharge; or
1029	4. Prohibit the discharge.
1030	(i) All sewage treatment facilities must monitor effluent
1031	for total nitrogen and total phosphorus concentration as
1032	required by department rule.
1033	(j) The department shall require the levels of operator
1034	certification and staffing necessary to ensure proper operation
1035	and maintenance of sewage facilities.
1036	(k) The department may adopt rules necessary to carry out
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1037	this subsection.
1038	(1) The county, each municipality, and those special
1039	districts established for the purpose of collection,
1040	transmission, treatment, or disposal of sewage may require
1041	connecting wastewater treatment facilities owned by other
1042	entities to a central sewer system within 30 days after notice
1043	of availability of service.
1044	Section 5. Section 4 of chapter 99-395, Laws of Florida,
1045	as amended by section 6 of chapter 2006-223, Laws of Florida;
1046	section 5 of chapter 99-395, Laws of Florida; and section 6 of
1047	chapter 99-395, Laws of Florida, as amended by section 1 of
1048	chapter 2001-337 and section 1 of chapter 2004-455, Laws of
1049	Florida, are repealed.
1050	Section 6. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

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