



26 permitted for storage.

27 (b) The Legislature finds that siting floating solar  
28 facilities on wastewater treatment ponds, abandoned limerock  
29 mine areas, stormwater treatment ponds, reclaimed water ponds,  
30 and other water storage reservoirs are beneficial uses of those  
31 areas for many reasons, including the fact that the water has a  
32 cooling effect on the solar panels, which can boost power  
33 production, and the panels help decrease the amount of water  
34 lost to evaporation and the formation of harmful algal blooms.

35 (c) Therefore, the Legislature finds that the siting of  
36 floating solar facilities should be encouraged by local  
37 governments as appropriate uses of water and land areas.

38 (2) For purposes of this section, the term "floating solar  
39 facility" means a solar facility as defined in s. 163.3205(2),  
40 which is located on wastewater treatment ponds, abandoned  
41 limerock mine areas, stormwater treatment ponds, reclaimed water  
42 ponds, or other water storage reservoirs.

43 (3) A floating solar facility shall be a permitted use in  
44 the appropriate land use categories in each local government  
45 comprehensive plan and each local government must amend its land  
46 development regulations to promote the expanded use of floating  
47 solar facilities.

48 (4) A county or municipality may adopt an ordinance  
49 specifying buffer and landscaping requirements for floating  
50 solar facilities. The requirements may not exceed the

51 requirements for similar uses involving the construction of  
52 other solar facilities that are permitted uses in agricultural  
53 land use categories and zoning districts.

54 (5) Notwithstanding subsections (3) and (4), a floating  
55 solar facility may not be constructed in an Everglades  
56 Agricultural Area reservoir project if the local governments  
57 involved with the project determine that the floating solar  
58 facility will have a negative impact on that project.

59 (6) The Office of Energy within the Department of  
60 Agriculture and Consumer Services shall develop and submit  
61 recommendations to the Legislature by December 31, 2022, to  
62 provide a regulatory framework to private and public sector  
63 entities that implement floating solar facilities.

64 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2022.