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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: WD	.	
03/30/2015	.	
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The Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation
(Dean) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Between lines 358 and 359

insert:

Section 8. Section 377.2436, Florida Statutes, is created
to read:

377.2436 Study on well stimulation.-

(1) The department shall conduct a study on well
stimulation. The study shall:

(a) Evaluate the underlying geologic features present in



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11 the counties where oil wells have been permitted and analyze the
12 potential impact that high-pressure well stimulation and
13 wellbore construction may have on the underlying geologic
14 features.

15 (b) Evaluate the potential hazards and risks that well
16 stimulation poses to surface water or groundwater resources. The
17 study shall assess the potential impacts of well stimulation on
18 drinking water resources and identify the main factors affecting
19 the severity and frequency of impacts and shall analyze the
20 potential for the use or reuse of recycled water in well
21 stimulation fluids while meeting appropriate water quality
22 standards.

23 (c) Review and evaluate the potential for groundwater
24 contamination from conducting well stimulation under or near
25 wells that have been previously abandoned and plugged and
26 identify a setback radius from previously plugged and abandoned
27 wells that could be impacted by well stimulation.

28 (d) Review and evaluate the ultimate disposition of well
29 stimulation after use in well stimulation processes.

30 (e) Analyze the risks associated with the handling,
31 treatment, and disposal of flowback fluids and other materials,
32 if any, generated by the treatment.

33 (f) Review and evaluate all known and potential
34 environmental impacts resulting from well stimulation treatments
35 including: harmful atmospheric emissions, greenhouse gas
36 emissions, the degradation of air quality, impacts to wildlife,
37 native plants, and habitat, habitat fragmentation, groundwater
38 and surface water contamination, noise pollution, fire and
39 explosions, and induced seismicity.



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40 (2) The department shall not approve any permits to
41 authorize well stimulation treatments until the Florida study is
42 presented to the Governor, President of the Senate, and the
43 Speaker of the House of Representatives and all rulemaking is
44 complete, or additional legislation is enacted to protect human
45 health, safety, and the environment.

46 (3) The study is subject to independent scientific peer
47 review.

48 (4) The findings of the study shall be submitted to the
49 Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the
50 House of Representatives by March 1, 2016, and shall be
51 prominently posted on the department website.

52 (5) The department shall adopt rules to implement the
53 findings of the study if such rules are warranted by the study
54 and the department determines that additional legislation is not
55 needed. If the department determines legislation is needed to
56 protect groundwater or surface water resources, the department
57 shall provide recommendations for such legislation to the
58 Legislature.

59
60

61 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

62 And the title is amended as follows:

63 Delete lines 24 - 25

64 and insert:

65 and environmentally compatible manner; creating s.
66 377.2436, F.S.; requiring a study on well stimulation;
67 amending s. 377.37, F.S.; increasing the maximum
68 amount for civil