

By Senator Ausley

3-01706-22

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1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to solar photovoltaic facility  
3           development; providing a short title; directing the  
4           Department of Environmental Protection, in  
5           coordination with the Office of Energy within the  
6           Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, to  
7           conduct a study of brownfield sites and closed  
8           landfill sites to determine viable locations for  
9           redevelopment as solar photovoltaic facilities;  
10          providing study requirements; directing the department  
11          to submit a report to the Governor, Legislature,  
12          Florida Public Service Commission, and regional  
13          planning council chairs by a specified date; providing  
14          an effective date.

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16 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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18           Section 1. (1) This act may be cited as the "Brownfields to  
19 Brightfields Act."

20           (2) The Department of Environmental Protection, in  
21 coordination with the Office of Energy within the Department of  
22 Agriculture and Consumer Services, shall conduct a study of  
23 brownfield sites, as defined in s. 288.107(1)(b), Florida  
24 Statutes, and closed landfill sites to determine viable sites  
25 for redevelopment as solar photovoltaic facilities.

26           (3) The study must include, at a minimum:

27           (a) A list of brownfield sites and closed landfill sites  
28 with potential for redevelopment as solar photovoltaic  
29 facilities, divided into high, medium, and low potential. The

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30 list must be based on:

31 1. Site characteristics including physical, legal, and  
32 zoning barriers to redevelopment.

33 2. Proximity to existing energy generation and transmission  
34 infrastructure.

35 3. Proximity to current and projected population centers.

36 4. Environmental justice considerations, including, but not  
37 limited to, the interim final recommendations of the National  
38 Environmental Justice Advisory Council dated May 13, 2021.

39 (b) An assessment of the potential and logistics for solar  
40 energy generation from a diverse subset of high to medium  
41 potential sites for redevelopment, including a cost-benefit  
42 analysis. Potential sites must vary in lot size, geographic  
43 proximity to current and projected population centers, and  
44 geographic region.

45 (c) An analysis of the potential costs and benefits of  
46 installing solar photovoltaic facilities to adjacent  
47 communities.

48 (d) A list of recommended local and state policy changes to  
49 facilitate the redevelopment of brownfield and landfill sites  
50 into solar photovoltaic facilities.

51 (4) The department shall submit a report on the findings  
52 and recommendations of the study to the Governor, the President  
53 of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the  
54 Florida Public Service Commission, and the chairs of each  
55 regional planning council by August 1, 2023.

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