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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to spring restoration; amending s.
3 403.064, F.S.; authorizing certain domestic wastewater
4 treatment facilities to request the incorporation of
5 reclaimed water projects identified in Outstanding
6 Florida Springs recovery or prevention strategies;
7 requiring the Department of Environmental Protection
8 to approve such requests within a certain period of
9 time if certain conditions are met; providing an
10 effective date.

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

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14 Section 1. Present paragraphs (f) through (i) of subsection
15 (16) of section 403.064, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as
16 paragraphs (g) through (j), respectively, and a new paragraph
17 (f) is added to that subsection, to read:

18 403.064 Reuse of reclaimed water.—

19 (16) By November 1, 2021, domestic wastewater utilities
20 that dispose of effluent, reclaimed water, or reuse water by
21 surface water discharge shall submit to the department for
22 review and approval a plan for eliminating nonbeneficial surface
23 water discharge by January 1, 2032, subject to the requirements
24 of this section. The plan must include the average gallons per
25 day of effluent, reclaimed water, or reuse water that will no
26 longer be discharged into surface waters and the date of such
27 elimination, the average gallons per day of surface water
28 discharge which will continue in accordance with the
29 alternatives provided for in subparagraphs (a)2. and 3., and the

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level of treatment that the effluent, reclaimed water, or reuse water will receive before being discharged into a surface water by each alternative.

(f) A domestic wastewater treatment facility with an approved plan may submit a request to the department to amend the plan to incorporate a reclaimed water project identified in an Outstanding Florida Springs recovery or prevention strategy adopted pursuant to s. 373.805. The department must approve the request within 60 days after receipt of the request if all of the following conditions are met:

1. The identified use of reclaimed water will benefit a rural area of opportunity as defined in s. 288.0656(2).

2. The project will provide at least 35 million gallons per day of reclaimed water to benefit an Outstanding Florida Spring.

3. The project involves more than one domestic wastewater treatment facility.

4. The project implementation and surface water discharge elimination schedule meets the requirements of s. 373.805 and has an implementation date of no later than January 1, 2039.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.