

2023 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 308

BY REPRESENTATIVE WHEAT

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

ENVIRONMENT/PERMITS: Requires an environmental impact statement as part of the coastal use permit application process for certain uses of Lake Maurepas and the Maurepas Swamp Wildlife Management Area

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 49:214.43, relative to coastal use permits; to provide for certain coastal use  
3 permit application requirements; to require an environmental impact statement for  
4 carbon dioxide sequestration activity on Lake Maurepas or in the Maurepas Swamp  
5 Wildlife Management Area; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 49:214.43 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

8 §214.43. Environmental impact statement; carbon dioxide sequestration

9 Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, and in addition to all  
10 other requirements provided by law and administrative rules, the construction of a  
11 Class VI injection well for carbon dioxide sequestration or the installation of  
12 pipelines for the transportation of carbon dioxide for geologic sequestration on or  
13 beneath Lake Maurepas or the Maurepas Swamp Wildlife Management Area shall  
14 require an environmental impact statement that meets all the requirements of 40 CFR  
15 Parts 1502 and 1503, including publication of a draft statement in the Louisiana  
16 Register and a public comment period, as a required component of the coastal use  
17 permit application.

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**DIGEST**

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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HB 308 Original

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Wheat

**Abstract:** Requires an environmental impact statement that meets federal requirements as part of the application process for a coastal use permit for the construction of a Class VI injection well or installation of pipelines to transport carbon dioxide for geologic sequestration.

Present law establishes a coastal zone management program. Specifies that the Dept. of Natural Resources, office of coastal management, is the state agency responsible for management of activities in the coastal zone, including the issuance of coastal use permits.

Present law also establishes requirements for the issuance of coastal use permits and authorizes the promulgation of rules to provide guidance on permit decisions.

Proposed law imposes an additional requirement on any applicant seeking a coastal use permit to allow the construction of a Class VI injection well or installation of pipelines to transport carbon dioxide for geologic sequestration on or beneath Lake Maurepas or in the Maurepas Swamp Wildlife Management Area. Provides that the additional requirement is an environmental impact statement that meets the requirements for environmental impact statements provided for in federal regulations.

(Adds R.S. 49:214.43)