2001SENATE BILL 214

July 5, 2001 – Introduced by Senators George, Burke, Hansen, Moen, Robson, Plache, Grobschmidt and Cowles, cosponsored by Representatives Richards, Sinicki, Boyle, Sherman, La Fave, Reynolds, Carpenter, Pocan, J. Lehman, Turner, Plouff, Gronemus, Wasserman, Lassa, Miller, Berceau and Krug. Referred to Committee on Environmental Resources.

AN ACT to amend 295.33 (4); and to create 295.33 (4m) of the statutes; relating
to: drilling beneath the beds of the Great Lakes and adjacent waters to explore
for or produce oil or gas and construction of pipelines on or beneath the beds of
the Great Lakes or adjacent waters.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, no person may drill to explore for or produce oil or gas from beneath the beds of the Great Lakes or bays or harbors that are adjacent to the Great Lakes unless that drilling originates from the shore and the person has a written lease from the department of natural resources.

This bill prohibits any person from drilling beneath the beds of the Great Lakes or bays or harbors that are adjacent to the Great Lakes to explore for or produce oil or gas, without regard to where the drilling originates. This bill also prohibits any person from installing an oil or gas pipeline on or beneath the beds of the Great Lakes.

For further information see the *state and local* fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. 295.33 (4) of the statutes is amended to read:

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295.33 (4) No person may conduct drilling operations for the exploration for or
production of oil or gas $from if the drilling extends$ beneath the beds of the Great
Lakes or bays or harbors that are adjacent to the Great Lakes, unless all drilling
operations originate from locations above and on the landward side of the ordinary $\frac{1}{2}$
high-water mark and are conducted according to the terms of a written lease
obtained from the department under, notwithstanding s. 30.20 (2) (b).
Section 2. 295.33 (4m) of the statutes is created to read:
295.33 (4m) No person may install an oil or gas pipeline on or beneath the beds

10 (END)

of the Great Lakes.