

existing receiving body of water, the technical feasibility and economic reasonableness of measuring or reducing the particular type of water pollution, and any other standard as expressed in the intent and purpose of this title. The generality of this grant of authority shall only be limited by the specifications of particular classes of regulations elsewhere in this subtitle. Any regulation may (i) prescribe different provisions as required by circumstances for different pollutant sources and for different geographical areas and (ii) apply to sources located outside this State which cause, contribute to, or threaten environmental damage in Maryland and (iii) make special provisions for alert and abatement standards and procedures respecting occurrences or emergencies of pollution or on other short-term conditions constituting an acute danger to health or to the environment.

(d) Regulation of transfer and storage of oil and other unctuous substances. -- The Department OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE shall prescribe by rule or regulation approved methods, facilities, standards, and devices for transfer, storage, separating, removing, treating, or disposing of oil and other unctuous substances to prevent pollution of waters of the State. A person may not engage in any commercial or industrial operation involving these activities unless he has obtained a permit from the Department OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE, indicating that the activities are in conformity with the prescribed rules and regulations.

(e) Investigation of damage to aquatic resources; responsibility for cleanup; suit against persons liable for damage to aquatic resources. -- Whenever there occurs in the waters of the State any condition indicative of damage to aquatic resources, including, but not limited to, mortality of fish and other aquatic life, the Department OF NATURAL RESOURCES shall investigate the incident, determine the nature and extent of the damage, and establish the cause and source of the occurrence. The Department OF NATURAL RESOURCES shall act on these findings and require repair of any damage done and restoration of water resources to a degree necessary to protect the best interest of the people of the State. Any person who is determined to be responsible for the discharge or spillage of any such substance shall be personally and/or severally responsible to immediately clean up and abate the effects of the spillage and restore the natural resources of the State. If the Department OF NATURAL RESOURCES believes instituting suit is advisable, it shall turn over to the Attorney General all pertinent information and data. The Attorney General then shall file suit against the person causing the condition. The person shall be jointly and severally liable for the reasonable cost of rehabilitation and restoration of the resources damaged and the cost of eliminating the condition causing the damage,