

Advisory Commission, the Water Front Commission and the Water Resources Commission. The Department is under the direction of a Commission of five members appointed by the Governor for terms of five years. The term of one member expires each year. The Commission selects its own chairman and appoints the Director of the Department. Those functions of the Department dealing with geology and water resources are under the immediate supervision of the Director; the supervision of the mining industry is charged to the Bureau of Mines.

The Department has supervision of topographic, geologic, hydrographic, and magnetic surveys. It prepares topographic, geologic and such other maps as may be necessary to meet a specific need. Reports on the extent and character of the State's mineral and water resources are prepared by the Department. In cooperation with the United States Government, surveys of the water resources of the State are made. The agency investigates and recommends plans and policies for the protection of the State's waterfront and waterways against erosion. The Department has the further power to control and to conserve, in so far as is practicable, the surface and underground waters of Maryland; and to that end has jurisdiction over the construction and repairs of reservoirs, dams, and other water-way obstructions. In order to carry out this function, the Department licenses all water well drillers in the State and issues a permit for each well to be drilled. The Commission also has the power to promulgate and enforce such rules as may be necessary to conserve the State's water resources and its oil and gas resources (Code 1951, Art. 66C, secs. 15-17, 666-701).

Appropriations	1955	1956
General Fund	\$ 96,197	\$102,504
Staff: 12.		

BUREAU OF MINES

Frank J. Powers, Director

Mine Examining Board

Chairman: Frank J. Powers

Ellis Ellifretz, Miners; Arthur P. Hoffa, Sr. Operators

City Building, Westernport

Telephone: Westernport 4031

The first Mine Inspectors were appointed by the Governor in 1878 serving in Allegany and Garrett Counties. These inspectors, functioned independently, reporting only to the Governor, until 1916 when they were placed within the Board of Labor and Statistics. The inspection powers became a function of the Bureau of Mines upon its organization in 1922 as a unit of the Department of Labor and Statistics. Upon the organization of the Board of Natural Resources in 1941, the Bureau was transferred to the newly-created Department of Geology, Mines and Water Resources. The director of the Bureau is appointed by the Governor from a list of eligible persons certified by the State Employment Commissioner. The Bureau of Mines is responsible for the inspection of all mines within the State in order to maintain proper sanitation, ventilation, and safety standards in all mining operations. All persons or corporations engaging in open-pit or strip mining operations are required to register with the Bureau previous to the beginning of their operations and to report periodically during such operations. The Bureau of Mines examines all applicants