

sources on July 1, 1975 and implemented by Chapter 320, Acts of 1976, includes all energy-related agencies in the Department of Natural Resources under a new administration including the Power Plant Siting Program.

The Power Plant Siting Program created by Chapter 31, Acts of 1971, is responsible for the administration of a long range electric power plant environmental research program, monitoring existing and proposed power plants, evaluating proposed sites and acquiring land for sufficient standby sites. Site Evaluations calculate the impact of future power plants at proposed sites for consideration at the hearings on Certificates of Public Convenience and Necessity and conducts a detailed site investigation of all potential power plant sites. The Site Evaluation work forms the basis of program recommendations to the Public Service Commission for conditions relating to the design, construction, and operation of a power plant that are necessary for the protection of the environment.

Research is geared to developing an understanding of Maryland's environmental resources, and socioeconomic structure which is necessary to site and operate power plants successfully with a maximum benefit to society and minimum detriment to the ecosystem.

Site acquisition identifies, investigates, acquires, and holds in the Land Bank a minimum inventory of four sites suitable for the construction and operation of power plants.

The functions of the Bureau of Mines and Mine Reclamation has been transferred to Energy and Coastal Zone Administration from the Maryland Geological Survey. The Bureau of Mines inspects all mines within the State for 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 before starting operations and to report periodically during such operations.

The Coastal Zone Management Program has been transferred from the Water Re-

sources Administration to the Energy and Coastal Zone Management Administration.

The Governor in March 1973 designated the Department of Natural Resources as the agency authorized to receive and administer federal grants pursuant to the Federal Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972.

Subsequent to that the Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources created the Coastal Zone Management Program to develop a program to assure Maryland's continued participation in the protection and wise use of its coastal resources. Working with local, county and other State agencies the Coastal Zone Management hopes to coordinate environmental programs to achieve a successful overall coastal zone program. The Coastal Zone Management Program has also been designated as the agency to develop regulations and implement regulations as specified by the Coastal Facilities Review Act as passed by the 1975 Maryland Legislature (Nat. Res. Art. sec. 1-102(a)).

LAND RECLAMATION COMMITTEE

Chairman: Lee E. Zeni, Director, Energy and Coastal Zone Administration

Department of Natural Resources members: Robert V. Creter, George Gilmore, H. Monte Nock, Stephen Layton, Ronald Hawk, *Allegheny County Soil Conservation District Supervisors*; John Reckner, *Garrett County Soil Conservation District Supervisor*; June Nader, *Allegheny County*; Eugene D. Straub, *Garrett County*.

Appointed members: Robert C. Harvey, 1978; Donald E. Moran, 1979.

The Land Reclamation Committee, originally established by Chapter 144, Acts of 1967, had its functions expanded by Chapter 414, Acts of 1969 and by Chapter 6, Acts of the Special Session of 1973. The Committee consists of eleven members. The Director of the Energy and Coastal Zone Administration serves as Chairman. The remaining members include the Chairman of the Soil Conservation District Supervisors of Garrett County, the Chairman of the Soil Conservation District Supervisors of Allegheny County or their representatives, two