

~~Article — Natural Resources
Section 6-104.2(a)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1989 Replacement Volume)~~

BY adding to

Article - Natural Resources
Section 6-104.4
Annotated Code of Maryland
(1989 Replacement Volume)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article - Natural Resources

~~6-104.2.~~

~~(a) In addition to other applicable provisions of law, a person may not obtain a permit for the drilling of an oil or gas well under § 6-104 of this subtitle in the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area, as defined under § 8-1807 of this article, and may not drill for oil or gas exploration in the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area unless:~~

~~(1) The Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Commission provides written approval of the proposed drilling;~~

~~(2) The applicant completes an environmental impact study that includes a comprehensive analysis of the potential for any adverse environmental effects as a result of the drilling;~~

~~(3) The Department consults the governing body of the county in which the drilling will occur AND OBTAINS THE WRITTEN APPROVAL OF THE GOVERNING BODY FOR THE PROPOSED DRILLING; and~~

~~(4) The Department considers any written recommendations of the Chesapeake Bay Critical Area Commission and the governing body of the county in which the drilling will occur.~~

6-104.4.

(A) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(2) "EXPLOSIVES" MEANS NORMAL COMMERCIAL EXPLOSIVES, BLASTING AGENTS, AND DETONATORS.

(3) "SEISMIC OPERATIONS" MEANS THE CONTROLLED APPLICATION OF VIBRATORY ENERGY FROM ANY SOURCE TO DETERMINE IF FAVORABLE CONDITIONS EXIST FOR THE SUBSURFACE ENTRAPMENT OF OIL OR GAS.