

20.

Upon application of the Department, verified by oath or affirmation, the circuit court of any county, or of Baltimore City, sitting in equity, may, by injunction, enforce the compliance with, or restrain the violation of, any order or notice, or rule or regulation, of the Department made pursuant to the provisions of this subtitle, or restrain the violation or attempted violation of any of the provisions of this subtitle. The Attorney General of Maryland shall be counsel to the Department **[of Geology, Mines and Water Resources]**.

23.

(a) It shall be the duty of the **[Commission]** *Department* to study, investigate and from time to time recommend ways and means of eliminating from the waters of the State, so far as practicable, all substances and materials which pollute or tend to pollute the same and to recommend methods, as far as practicable, for preventing pollution as defined in **[Section 34 of this subtitle]** *Section 2 of this article*.

(b) The **[Commission]** *Department* is hereby authorized to encourage voluntary cooperation by the citizens of the State and by the industries, municipalities, counties, metropolitan districts and the State in restoring, preserving and maintaining the purity of the waters of the State, for the greatest benefit of all the people of the State, to coordinate and stimulate the activities of the several State agencies now concerned with water pollution; to enforce existing laws relating to the abatement of pollution of the waters of the State; to supplement and expand existing technical or other water pollution data by study, investigation, research or other means that may be available; to cooperate with, assist and aid other State agencies engaged in assembling, accumulating or developing additional data or information on water pollution; to cooperate with, assist and aid other State agencies in enforcing water pollution laws or regulations; to recommend standards for sewage or waste effluents discharged into the waters of the State; to receive complaints or petitions relating to the pollution or alleged pollution of the waters of the State and to investigate and take such action as hereinafter provided; to conduct hearings, upon due notice, as may be advisable or necessary for the discharge of duties under this subtitle; to issue a special order or orders directing any person in this State causing the pollution of State waters to secure within the time specified therein, such operating results as are practicable of attainment toward the reduction, control, abatement and prevention of such pollution. If such results are not secured within the specified time, the **[Commission]** *Department* shall further direct such person to build or install and use within a reasonable specified time, such designated system, treatment plant structures, devices or means as are practicable and available for controlling, abating and preventing such pollution and to modify, amend or cancel any such special order or orders. Such orders shall be entered only after proper hearing with at least fifteen (15) days' notice to the person of the time, place and purpose thereof.

(c) No special order shall become effective in less than fifteen (15) days after same has been served on the person affected; to publish its findings and to make recommendations to the appropriate State