

CORDANCE WITH ITS STATUTORY AUTHORITY, INCLUDING THE RECEIVING OF STATE AND/OR FEDERAL GRANTS IF AVAILABLE. THE MUNICIPALITY SHALL HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO FIX AND CHARGE THE APPROPRIATE RATES SUFFICIENT TO COVER THE COSTS TO CONSTRUCT, OPERATE, MAINTAIN, EXPAND, RELOCATE, REPLACE, RENOVATE OR REPAIR SAID FACILITIES.

5. *Creation of Service Regions.*

(a) *As soon as possible after the organization of the Service, the Director shall, after consultation with the Secretary of Natural Resources, the Secretary of State Planning, and the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene, AND THE MUNICIPALITIES AFFECTED, determine appropriate boundaries for wastewater purification service regions and solid waste disposal service regions. In determining boundaries for wastewater purification service regions, full consideration shall be given to the Comprehensive River Basin Programs developed in compliance with Section 5 (g) of Chapter 445 of the Acts of 1968. In determining boundaries for solid waste disposal service regions, full consideration shall be given to the findings and recommendations of the Comprehensive Statewide Plan for Solid Waste Disposal developed by the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.* SERVICE REGIONS SHALL BE BASED UPON NEEDS SET FORTH IN, AND PROVIDE INTEGRATION OF, APPROVED STATE-COUNTY MASTER PLANS FOR WATER AND SEWERAGE OR SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL, ADOPTED PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 43 OF THIS CODE, BUT MAY ALSO TAKE ACCOUNT OF OTHER PLANS AND STUDIES.

(b) *As soon as possible after the determination of appropriate boundaries, the Director, AFTER CONSULTATION WITH THE MUNICIPALITIES AFFECTED, shall establish priorities for designating wastewater purification service regions and solid waste disposal service regions, and shall formally designate the regions.*

(c) *Identical service regions need not be designated for both wastewater purification and solid waste disposal projects; however, every part of Maryland shall be included in one and only one wastewater purification service region and in one and only one solid waste disposal service region.*

(d) *As soon as possible after the designation of a service region, the Service shall cause surveys, plans, studies, and estimates to be made and shall, AFTER CONSULTATION WITH THE MUNICIPALITIES LOCATED WITHIN THE SERVICE REGION, prepare a five-year plan FOR EACH SERVICE REGION for the most effective and economical means of providing wastewater purification and solid waste disposal projects. THE FIVE-YEAR PLAN SHALL GIVE DUE CONSIDERATION TO THE NEED FOR WASTEWATER PURIFICATION PROJECTS INCLUDED IN THE APPROVED COUNTY WATER AND SEWERAGE PLANS ADOPTED IN COMPLIANCE WITH ARTICLE 43, SECTION 387C OF THIS CODE. The five-year plan shall designate those existing facilities or portions of them that shall be transferred to the jurisdiction of the Service, improvements to and extension of existing facilities, construction of new wastewater purification and solid waste disposal projects, AND THE PROPOSED METHODS*