

(f) To administer the State Shore Erosion Control Construction Loan Fund to provide loans to persons, municipalities or counties in support of construction of shore erosion control structures.

(g) To supervise or make provision for the supervising of the design and erection of all shore protective devices financed wholly or in part by the State Shore Erosion Construction Loan Fund.

(h) To prepare requests for appropriation of funds necessary to maintain the State Shore Erosion Control Construction Fund.

(i) To cooperate with the following agencies:

(1) The State Roads Commission for shore erosion control where essential to protect municipal, county or State roads.

(2) The United States Army Corps of Engineers for the conduct of shore erosion studies.

(3) The Soil Conservation Service, United States Department of Agriculture, in evaluation and application of vegetative measures for shore erosion control.

(j) To design, construct and maintain shore erosion control works on state owned lands when such projects are included in the annual budget for the Shore Erosion Construction Loan Fund;

(k) To promulgate regulations for the administration and implementation of this subtitle.

756A.

For the purpose of this subheading, unless otherwise required by the context:

(a) The term "shore erosion control project" means a competently designed work project which may include but is not limited to the erection or placement of bulkheads, groins, or other erosion control devices, and such measures as may be required to stabilize waterside, shorelines, banks, and to change drainage patterns, the whole intended to halt or retard erosion of shorelines and deposition of eroded sediments in the waters of the State.

(b) The term "project construction cost" means the total initial cost of constructing a shore erosion control project, exclusive of design, supervision, inspection, and maintenance costs.

(c) The term "net project construction cost" means that part of the project construction cost paid from the Shore Erosion Control Construction Loan Fund created by Section 758A of this article, equal to project construction cost less the cash contribution of the owner or owners of the benefited property or properties upon completion of construction.

(d) The term "property owner's cash contribution" means that sum which the owner or owners of property benefited by a shore erosion control project agree(s) to pay in a lump sum upon completion of project construction cost, and shall be placed in escrow immediately after a construction contract is awarded but before construction begins.

757.

(a) Any owner of property abutting on any body of water in the State may file a written application with the Department of