

wherein the improvements are contemplated shall thereupon, and within ten days after the last of said publications of said notice, file a petition with the [commissioner] Department protesting against the proposed improvement, the [commissioner] Department shall grant them a hearing within fifteen days after such petition is filed in the office of the [commissioner] Department and after not less than five days notice of the time and place of said hearing by advertisement published in one newspaper published within the county, and by personal notices addressed to any one or more persons whose names are signed to said petition. After due hearing as aforesaid, the [commissioner] Department shall decide upon the reasonableness of the objections stated in the petition; and shall dispose of the same by written order concurred in by a majority of the commissioners, which order shall be published in the same manner as herein required to be published and a copy of which shall be mailed to any one or more of the petitioners. If the petitioners are not satisfied with the [commissioner's] Department's decision, they shall have the right to take and enter, within ten days after the last publication of said order as aforesaid, an appeal to the County Commissioners of Cecil County, who shall review the [commissioner's] Department's decision and decide as to the necessity and propriety of the improvement contemplated and whether the district can stand the cost of the same; and the decision of the county commissioners shall be final.

CECIL COUNTY IS DECLARED TO BE A SANITARY DISTRICT FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE EXERCISE OF THE POWERS VESTED BY THIS SUBTITLE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT THE MERGER OF THE NORTH EAST SANITARY DISTRICT AND THE NORTH EAST SANITARY DISTRICT, EXTENSION "A" WITH THE CECIL COUNTY SANITARY DISTRICT, SHALL IN NO MANNER AFFECT OUTSTANDING BONDS OR THE RIGHT OF MUNICIPALITIES WITHIN CECIL COUNTY FROM OWNING AND OPERATING INDEPENDENT WATER AND/OR SEWER SYSTEMS SERVING THE MUNICIPALITY.

FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING FOR THE ORGANIZATION AND PRELIMINARY EXPENSES OF ANY NEWLY DESIGNATED WATER, SEWERAGE AND/OR DRAINAGE DISTRICT, AS HEREINAFTER PROVIDED, THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SHALL FURNISH THE DEPARTMENT A SUM NOT EXCEEDING TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$25,000.00) WHICH SHALL BE REPAID OUT OF THE FIRST BOND ISSUE OR INCOME OF THE PARTICULAR DISTRICT. FURTHER, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ASSISTING IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF NEEDED WATER, SEWERAGE AND/OR DRAINAGE FACILITIES WITHIN ANY DULY CONSTITUTED DISTRICT, THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MAY MAKE LOANS OR GRANTS TO THE DEPARTMENT UNDER APPROPRIATE WRITTEN AGREEMENTS. THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS MAY MAKE GENERAL FUND APPROPRIATIONS OR BORROW FUNDS FOR THIS PURPOSE, UPON SUCH TERMS AND CONDITIONS AS THEY MAY DEEM RIGHT AND PROPER.

THE DEPARTMENT SHALL CAUSE SURVEYS, PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS AND ESTIMATES TO BE MADE THROUGHOUT CECIL COUNTY FOR WATER SUPPLY, SEWERAGE,