

plants, hydrants, meters, valves and equipment, appurtenances and all properties, rights, easements and franchises relating thereto and deemed necessary or convenient by the Commission for the operation thereof. The Commission shall also have the power to acquire any existing water or distribution systems by purchase or otherwise, and whether privately or publicly owned. The Commission shall also have the power to take, acquire and hold any land, structures or buildings or any stream bed, waterway, water rights or watershed in the State of Maryland, either in fee or as an easement which may be deemed necessary to carry out the provisions or intentions of this subtitle. If the Commission may be unable to purchase any of the foregoing from the owners thereof, it shall have the right to condemn it through the method provided for condemnation of land by Public Corporations under Article 33A of the Public General Laws of Maryland, or as it is amended from time to time, excluding transmission, treatment and distribution facilities of existing municipal corporate water supply systems.

631C. Preservation of Existing Water Rights.

On any watershed where any municipal corporation **SPECIAL TAXING DISTRICTS** at the time of the enactment of this Act has ~~an~~ impoundment and withdrawal rights, these withdrawals rights **WITHOUT COST** shall be preserved in perpetuity unto that municipal corporation **SO LONG AS IT USES ITS OWN TRANSMISSION LINES**.

631D. Acceptance of Grants.

The Commission is hereby authorized to accept from any state, or any state or federal agency, or from any political subdivision of any state, or from any persons or corporations, grants of money or anything else for the purpose of aiding in the acquisition and construction of the water supply system heretofore mentioned in this subtitle.

631E. Contracts and Agreements.

Immediately after the organization of the Commission, it shall enter into those negotiations with Federal, State, County, or municipal agencies as may be empowered to grant and/or furnish funds to the Commission to carry out the purposes of this subtitle, and it is empowered to make any and all contracts and agreements requisite, for the purpose of attaining, by grant or gift all or part of the amount of money necessary for the acquisition and construction of the water supply system mentioned in this subtitle and for surveys and preliminary operations incidental to that acquisition and construction, and also to accept it outright in the form of a grant or gift. In the event the Commission shall be successful in such negotiations and shall make contracts or agreements for the obtaining of that aid, then and in that event, it shall begin the operations required under the contracts or agreements, and in the manner set forth in the contracts or agreements, it being the intention of this subtitle that the Commission shall not bind itself nor the County Commissioners of Allegany County to the expenditure of any moneys for the capital outlay necessary for a water supply system or the preliminaries necessary for the acquisition or construction thereof, except as is hereinafter provided for.