

## 4(q).

To make directly, or through the hiring of consultants, any plans, surveys, investigations, and studies relating to *water supply*, liquid and solid wastes transportation, purification, disposal techniques, and management methods or the effects of these techniques and methods, for the purpose or improving or evaluating the effectiveness or economy of its services and operations; the Service may charge in part or in whole the costs of the investigations and studies against one or more service districts or may include them in part or in whole in its general operating expenses, depending on the expected applicability of the studies and investigations; and the Service may supplement grants or other aids received from the federal government or from other sources to assist in carrying out the purposes of this article;

## 5(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, the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene, and the municipalities affected, determine appropriate boundaries for *water supply service regions*, waste water purification service regions and solid waste disposal service regions. 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.

## 5(b).

As soon as possible after the determination of appropriate boundaries, the director, after consultation with the municipalities affected, shall establish priorities for designating *water supply service regions*, waste water purification service regions and solid waste disposal service regions, and shall formally designate the regions.

## 5(c).

Identical service regions need not be designated for **[both]** *water supply*, waste water purification and solid waste disposal projects; however, every part of Maryland shall be included in one ~~and only one waste water purification service region, [and in one and only one] solid waste disposal service region, and water supply service region~~ **OF THE SERVICE REGIONS ESTABLISHED IN THE STATE FOR WATER SUPPLY, WASTE WATER PURIFICATION, AND SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL; BUT NO PART OF THE STATE SHALL BE INCLUDED IN MORE THAN ONE SUCH SERVICE REGION.**

## 5(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 *water supply*, waste water purification and solid waste disposal projects. The five-year plans shall give due consideration to the need for *water*