

the budget of the People's Counsel to be submitted with the budget of the Department of Natural Resources.

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

Article - Natural Resources  
Section 3-302 (c)  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(1974 Volume and 1976 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That Section 3-302(c) of Article - Natural Resources, of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1974 Volume and 1976 Supplement) be and it is hereby repealed and reenacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

Article - Natural Resources

3-302.

(c) The Secretary shall administer the fund. The fund is subject to the provisions for financial management and budgeting established by the Department of Budget and Fiscal Planning. ~~[It] 90 PERCENT OF THE MONEYS IN THE FUND shall be used [exclusively] to carry out the provisions of this subtitle as provided for in the budget, AND 10 PERCENT OF THE MONEYS IN THE FUND SHALL BE APPROPRIATED TO THE PEOPLE'S COUNSEL OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION TO BE USED AS NECESSARY FOR PREPARATION OF HEARINGS ON RATE INCREASE REQUESTS~~ THE MONEYS IN THE FUND SHALL BE USED TO CARRY OUT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBTITLE AS PROVIDED FOR IN THE BUDGET, EXCEPT THAT 10 PERCENT OF ALL MONEYS ACCRUING TO THE FUND AFTER JULY 1, 1978, SHALL BE USED TO SUPPLEMENT FUNDS NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THE DUTIES OF THE PEOPLE'S COUNSEL OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION. THE PEOPLE'S COUNSEL SHALL SUBMIT AN ANNUAL BUDGET OF NECESSARY SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDS TO THE DEPARTMENT TO BE INCORPORATED IN THE DEPARTMENT'S BUDGET. For the purposes of this subtitle, the Secretary may execute appropriate contracts with any state or federal agency, research organization, industry, or academic institution to conduct the necessary research, construct or acquire, or both, real property including physical predictive models, laboratories, buildings, land, and appurtenances, or support the technological development of extraordinary systems related to power plants designed to minimize environmental impact. He may utilize available expertise in any other state unit in the development, execution, and management of contracts and agreements on projects relating to their areas of prime responsibility.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1977.