

15-19.

The [Ccmmision] COUNTY shall not be required to pay any taxes or assessments upon any project acquired, constructed or operated by it, under the provisions of this subtitle, or upon the income therefrom, and the bonds issued under the provisions of this subtitle, their transfer and the income therefrom (including any profit made on the sale thereof by any person other than the initial purchaser thereof) shall at all times be free from taxation by the State of Maryland or any of its political subdivisions, or by any town or incorporated municipality or any other public agency within the State.

15-20.

(a) For the purpose of paying the interest on and principal of the bonds issued by [said Commission] THE CCUNTY as in this subtitle provided for the water [supply,] AND sewerage [, or drainage] systems to be constructed, purchased, or established under this subtitle, the [Commission] BOARD may fix an annual assessment on all properties, improved or unimproved, binding upon a street, road, lane, alley, or right-of-way in which a water main[, ] OR sewer [, or drain] has been built. The annual assessment shall be made upon the front foot basis, and the first payment shall be collected during the year in which the construction is completed on the water supply[, ] OR sewerage [, or drainage] systems; or in which the systems are purchased or acquired. All sums collected by the [Commission] BOARD for benefits levied against the property for water[, ] OR sewerage [, or drainage] construction shall be set aside as a separate fund to be known and designated as the Front Foot Benefit Assessment Fund.

(b) The [Ccmmision] BOARD for the purpose of assessing benefits shall divide all properties binding upon a street, road, lane, alley, or right-of-way, in which a water pipe or sanitary sewer is to be laid, into four classes, namely: agricultural, small acreage, industrial or business, and residential, and the [Commission] BOARD may subdivide each of these classes in such manner as it deems to be in the public interest. Whenever any water [supply] or sewerage project in the [county] SERVICE AREA has been completed and declared ready for service, the [Commission] BOARD shall fix and levy an assessment for the remainder of the fiscal year on a pro rata basis upon all property in the [county] SERVICE AREA abutting upon the water main or sewer, in accordance with the classification or subdivision thereof; and it shall in writing notify all owners of said properties into which class and subdivision their respective properties fall and the charge determined upon, naming also in the notice a time and place, when and at which time the owner will be heard. Such notice may be mailed to the last known address of the owner, or served in person upon any adult occupying the premises or in case of a vacant or unimproved property posted upon the premises.