

directed to make inspections of the operations of all such projects and to require the owners or operators thereof to maintain and operate them in compliance with the commission's reasonable requirements and with due regard to public health, safety and comfort. The commission is authorized to fix and collect from the owners or operators of such systems a reasonable fee for its supervision and inspection. Whenever an owner or operator of such system fails or refuses to make any correction or fails or refuses to maintain and operate the system in compliance with the commission's reasonable requirements, the commission may make the correction or, if necessary, take over for so long a period as may be necessary for the operation of the system and collect the costs therefor from the owners or operators. After construction of a water or sewage treatment facility pursuant to a commission permit, if the operation thereof is subject to inspection by the state department of health and mental hygiene, the commission shall not be required to duplicate those operational inspection functions, and its operation and inspection fee shall be eliminated or reduced commensurate with the eliminated inspection activities. All other aspects of the commission permit for the facility shall continue.

(d) The areas described herein shall be exempt from any taxes and/or assessments by the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission until such areas are included within the Washington Suburban Sanitary District.

(e) This section shall not apply to any water supply, sewage collection and disposal system constructed for the sole purpose of serving any single building, or a group of buildings serving as a single farm unit or as a single commercial or industrial establishment, but this section shall apply to any apartment house with five or more dwelling units. This section shall not apply to any system constructed by Montgomery County or by any instrumentality of the county, nor to the City of Rockville, nor to any water supply, sewage collection and disposal system constructed by a municipal corporation which was owned and operated by the municipality on June 1, 1965.

(f) All acts or parts of acts inconsistent with the provisions of this section are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency, excepting, however, those relating to the authority of the state board of health and specifically set forth in Article 43 of the Annotated Code (1951 edition).

(g) Any individual, firm or private corporation failing to comply with the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall be fined not less [that] THAN \$500.00. No conviction hereunder shall in any manner relieve any person of the necessity of securing and paying for a permit and complying with all other applicable provisions of this section.