

recreational purposes, and agricultural, industrial, and other legitimate uses. All standards may be amended from time to time by the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene and shall include but not be limited to:

(1) Water quality standards, specifying, among other things, the maximum short-term and long-term concentrations of pollutants in the water, minimum permissible concentrations of dissolved oxygen and other desirable matter in the water and the temperature range for the water;

(2) Effluent standards specifying the maximum loading or concentrations and the physical, thermal, chemical, biological, and radioactive properties of wastes which may be discharged into the waters; standards shall be at least as stringent as those specified by the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System;

(3) Rules and regulations defining technique for filling and sealing of abandoned water wells and holes, for disposal wells, for mines both deep and surface, and for landfills to prevent groundwater contamination, seepage, and drainage into the waters of the State;

(4) Rules and regulations regarding the sale, offer, use or storage of pesticides, and other articles which constitute a water pollution hazard in the determination of the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene;

(5) Rules and regulations outlining the procedures for water pollution episodes or emergencies which constitute an acute danger to health or the environment;

(6) Rules and regulations specifying standards for equipment and procedures for monitoring pollutants, collection of samples, logging and reporting of the monitoring.

(c) (1) Except as provided in subsection (d) of this section, the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene may adopt, amend, or repeal procedural rules necessary to accomplish the purposes of this subtitle. Notice of public hearing shall specify the general subject matter of the regulation and, if appropriate, shall specify the waters for which the standards or criteria are sought to be adopted, amended or repealed and shall publicly circulate notice of its intended action and afford interested persons opportunity to submit data or views, orally or in writing.

(2) The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene may adopt, amend, or repeal substantive regulations as described in this paragraph. In promulgating regulations under this subtitle, the Department of Health and Mental