

patterns of physical and economic development in Maryland, and has concluded that State programs and investments should be directed toward efficient and energy conscious development, generally concentrated in and around existing communities, and be designed to protect health, natural resources, and the environment;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, HARRY HUGHES, GOVERNOR OF MARYLAND, BY VIRTUE OF THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME BY THE CONSTITUTION AND LAWS OF MARYLAND, DO HEREBY PROMULGATE THE FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE ORDER:

1. To the extent that they are not inconsistent with law, the principles and policies stated herein shall guide decisions by all State departments, agencies and commissions and other official State bodies for purposes of investment, financial or technical assistance, participation in development of local or regional plans, project or plan review, A-95 clearinghouse review, exercise of intervention powers and all other official acts, including cooperating with federal and local governments and agencies.
2. The six principles to guide State investments and actions are the following:
 - A. The viability of Maryland's existing communities and urban areas will be enhanced.
 - B. Productive agricultural land will be protected, the conservation and wise, balanced use of Maryland's natural resources will be assured, and recreation and open space resources for the use of and enjoyment of this and future generations will be secured.
 - C. Economic development and employment opportunities throughout the State will be increased for the well being of Maryland's residents.
 - D. The quality of the environment will be protected and improved to ensure the health and well being of residents.
 - E. The efficient use of non-renewable energy resources will be promoted and the exploration and development of new and alternate energy sources will be encouraged.
 - F. The efficient provision of transportation, utilities, water and sewer facilities, and other