

(4) If any property acquired by condemnation under this subsection is not requested by an electric company under subsection (d) of this section within 15 years of the date of purchase by the Secretary, the Secretary shall provide the original owner or the heirs of the original owner the opportunity to purchase the property within 90 days from the date the offer is made, at a price not exceeding the amount paid by the State plus 6 percent annual interest. This sale shall be deemed to be for adequate consideration for purposes of Article 78A, § 15 of the Code.

(5) FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, "SITE" MEANS LAND WHICH IS REASONABLY NECESSARY FOR A NEW SITE OR FOR THE EXPANSION OF AN EXISTING SITE OWNED BY A UTILITY. "SITE" INCLUDES LAND NECESSARY FOR SUCH ANCILLARY PURPOSES AS SOLID WASTE-DISPOSAL DISPOSAL OF SOLID WASTES PRODUCED BY AN ELECTRIC GENERATING STATION OPERATING ON THE SITE, TRANSMISSION OR COOLING WATER ACCESS, OR TRANSMISSION TRANSPORTATION ACCESS.

(b) (1) If the other requirements of this subtitle have been satisfied, the Secretary may acquire any site by agreement or condemnation under the condemnation law and pay for them from the Fund. Prior to such acquisition, the Secretary shall hold one or more informational meetings and one public hearing in the legislative district where the proposed site or sites are located. The Secretary holds the property in the name of the State and may not permit its temporary use for any purpose which might logically be expected to impede its prompt availability for power plant siting as and when needed. Temporary uses which the Secretary may authorize may include but are not limited to public recreational facilities, including open space areas, parks, forests and beaches, fish and wildlife refuges and other public recreational uses as authorized within this article. The Secretary may not hold, at any one time, more than eight sites, suitable for either single or multiple power plant siting. EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, [However,] the Secretary shall acquire within a reasonable time at least one suitable site for each electric company having a peak demand within the State of more than 1000 MW.

(2) THE SECRETARY SHALL NOT BE REQUIRED TO PURCHASE ANY ADDITIONAL SITES ON BEHALF OF AN ELECTRIC UTILITY HAVING A PEAK DEMAND WITHIN THE STATE IN EXCESS OF 1000 MW IF:

(I) THE UTILITY OWNS 2 SITES IN MARYLAND WHICH MAY SUPPORT THE CONSTRUCTION OF ELECTRIC GENERATING FACILITIES, INCLUDING ANY SITE WHICH IS CAPABLE OF SUPPORTING ADDITIONS TO EXISTING ELECTRIC GENERATING FACILITIES;

(II) THE UTILITY HAS LISTED THE SITES AS POSSIBLE OR PROPOSED SITES IN THE LONG-RANGE PLAN ASSEMBLED BY THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION UNDER ARTICLE 78, SECTION 54B(B);

(III) THE SECRETARY HAS SUBMITTED A PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT ON EACH SITE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION