

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article - Natural Resources

SUBTITLE 3A. ACID DEPOSITION

3-3A-01.

(A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(B) "ACID DEPOSITION" MEANS THE PROCESS WHEREBY ACID FORMING CHEMICAL COMPOUNDS ARE TRANSPORTED FROM THE ATMOSPHERE TO THE SURFACE OF THE EARTH.

(C) "ACID DEPOSITION PRECURSOR" MEANS AN AIR CONTAMINANT THAT MAY BE TRANSFORMED TO AN ACID GAS OR PARTICLE IN THE ATMOSPHERE.

(D) "COMMISSION" MEANS THE MARYLAND PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION.

(E) "DEPARTMENTS" MEANS THE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND MENTAL HYGIENE.

(F) "PARTICIPATING AGENCIES" MEANS THE COMMISSION, THE PEOPLE'S COUNSEL OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION, AND THE DEPARTMENTS OF ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT, AGRICULTURE, TRANSPORTATION, AND STATE PLANNING.

3-3A-02.

(A) THE DIRECTOR OF THE POWER PLANT SITING AND RESEARCH PROGRAM SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DIRECTION AND COORDINATION OF THE ACTIVITIES REQUIRED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE.

(B) (1) TO THE EXTENT FUNDS ARE PROVIDED IN THE STATE BUDGET, THE DEPARTMENTS, IN COOPERATION WITH THE PARTICIPATING AGENCIES, SHALL CONDUCT A COMPREHENSIVE EVALUATION OF:

(I) THE SOURCES OF ACID DEPOSITION RECEIVED IN THE STATE;

(II) THE IMPACT OF ACID DEPOSITION ON THE STATE;

(III) ANY AVAILABLE EFFECTIVE METHODS TO ALLEVIATE ANY SIGNIFICANT ADVERSE IMPACT ON THE STATE; AND

(IV) THE COSTS OF THE AVAILABLE EFFECTIVE METHODS TO ALLEVIATE ANY SIGNIFICANT ADVERSE IMPACT ON THE STATE.

(2) THE DEPARTMENTS SHALL UTILIZE THE RESULTS OF STUDIES CONDUCTED BY OTHER ORGANIZATIONS WHERE APPLICABLE AND