

(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] THE ENVIRONMENT.

(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-03.

(b) The comprehensive research and monitoring program shall:

(1) Determine the relative contributions, if any, to acid deposition in the State of various sources of acid deposition precursor emissions;

(2) Determine if acid deposition varies significantly from 1 geographic region of the State to another and identify the relative contribution of various sources of precursor emissions responsible for this variability;

(3) Expand and improve impact data bases through the compilation of existing data on precipitation and surface water chemistry, improved quality control, and standardization of sampling and analytical techniques;

(4) Identify regions, localized areas, or specific ecosystems of the State especially sensitive to acid deposition;

(5) Assess the consequence of the environmental impacts of acid deposition on resources such as surface water, groundwater, crops, forests, fisheries, and structures;

(6) Identify and evaluate the technological effectiveness, if any, and economic cost of technologies and noncontrol mitigative techniques that are feasible for use in the State to control acid deposition precursor emissions or to mitigate the impact of acid deposition;

(7) Identify and monitor activities of the federal government and private industry towards development of innovative technologies for cleaner coal combustion that are feasible for possible use in the State to reduce acid deposition precursor emissions from facilities in the State;