

(b) The Department shall require the sponsor[, as well as] OR the county or municipality in which the project is located, to provide security for the repayment of any financial assistance, which may be in the form of collateral, assurances of completion, mortgage liens, and guarantees of repayment. This provision may be waived in exceptional circumstances as determined by the Secretary.

SUBTITLE 7. MARYLAND ENERGY OFFICE

[7-101.] 4-701.

(a) The Maryland Energy Office is established within the Department.

(b) [The Secretary] WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE SECRETARY, THE MARYLAND ENERGY OFFICE shall implement and administer those conservation, allocation, or other energy programs or measures pursuant to State law or federal laws, orders, or federal rules, or regulations.

[7-102.] 4-702.

The Maryland Energy Office shall:

(1) [Identify and analyze the energy conservation requirements for the State] PROVIDE ADVISORY, CONSULTATIVE, TRAINING AND EDUCATIONAL SERVICES, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND GRANT AND LOAN FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO ANY MUNICIPALITY, COUNTY, STATE UNIT, LOCAL PUBLIC AGENCY, NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION, OR PRIVATE ENTITY, IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH OR CARRY OUT SOUND ENERGY POLICIES OR PRACTICES, INCLUDING ENERGY MANAGEMENT AND ENERGY CONSERVATION;

[(2)] Develop and update a State policy for the management and conservation of Maryland's energy resources;

(3) Identify and analyze the sources of energy entering the State and the distribution requirement for that energy within the State;

(4) Prepare contingency plans for the allocation and distribution of middle distillate oil, motor gasoline, residual fuel oil, and propane gas to various classes of consumers in the time of energy shortage;]

[(5)] (2) Assume those responsibilities delegated to the State energy offices pursuant to the orders, rules, and regulations promulgated [pursuant to] IN ACCORDANCE WITH any federal laws relating to the allocation, conservation, development, or consumption of energy resources OR ANY OTHER DELEGATION OF FEDERAL AUTHORITY PERTAINING TO ENERGY;