

persons. Service districts shall be based upon approved State-county master water and sewerage plans or solid waste disposal plans, if any, adopted pursuant to the Environment Article, but they may also take account of other plans and studies.

[(1)] (N) "Service region" means a geographic area which the Maryland Environmental Service designates and within which the director, after consultation with the municipalities affected, causes surveys, plans, studies, and estimates to be made for the purpose of determining the most dependable, effective, and efficient means of providing services through water supply projects, solid waste disposal projects, or wastewater purification projects. Service regions shall be based upon needs set forth in approved State-county master water and sewerage plans, or solid waste disposal plans, if any, adopted pursuant to the Environment Article, but they may also take account of other plans and studies.

[(m)] (O) "Solid waste disposal project" means any service, facility, or REAL OR PERSONAL property used or useful or having present capacity for future use in connection with the collection or disposal of solid wastes by any means, including disposal through the production of energy or products, or otherwise.

[(n)] (P) "Solid wastes" means all [putrescible and nonputrescible] waste materials [which are not gaseous or liquid], WHETHER SOLID, LIQUID, OR GAS, INCLUDING LIQUID WASTES. The term includes garbage, rubbish, ashes, incinerator residue, wastewater treatment residue, street cleanings, dead animals, demolition and construction debris, household appliances, automobile bodies, offal, paunch manure, METHANE OR OTHER GASES, SEWAGE SLUDGE and solid OR GASEOUS WASTE MATERIALS [wastes] from commercial, AGRICULTURAL, or industrial activities, OR FROM COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES.

[(o)] (Q) "Wastewater purification project" means any service, facility, or property, REAL OR PERSONAL, used or useful or having present capacity for future use in connection with the collection or treatment of liquid wastes.

[(p)] (R) "Water supply project" means any service, facility, or property, REAL OR PERSONAL, used, useful, or having present capacity for future use in connection with water supply and distribution, including any water treatment facility or property and rights therein and appurtenances thereto.

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(a) To assist with the preservation, improvement, and management of the quality of air, land, and water resources, and to promote the health and welfare of the citizens of the State, it is the intention of the General Assembly in enactment of this