

(d) To the extent appropriate in each instance, acquisition, design, construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, improvement, operation, maintenance, and repair of a water supply project, wastewater purification project, and solid waste disposal project, pursuant to an order of the Secretary of the Environment as further provided in §§ 3-109 and 3-110 of this subtitle; or pursuant to a mandatory agreement to provide requested services, as provided in § 3-107 of this subtitle; or pursuant to an approved five-year plan, as provided in § 3-106 of this subtitle.

(e) Except upon request of a municipality and pursuant to a contract between the Service and the municipality, the Service may not acquire, construct, operate, or establish a wastewater purification project or solid waste disposal project, as the case may be, for (1) any area or district which, in the determination of the Secretary of the Environment, is receiving adequate service from a project owned by a municipality and operated in compliance with applicable laws and regulations; or (2) any area or district which, in the determination of that Secretary, will receive, within a reasonable time, adequate service from a project owned by a municipality and operated in compliance with applicable laws and regulations; OR (3) DREDGING OR DREDGED MATERIAL DISPOSAL PROJECTS.

(f) Execute the powers and perform the duties set forth in Subtitle 7 of this title, including the financing, acquisition, leasing, and operation of hazardous waste disposal facilities.

3-106.

(a) The director, after consultation with the Secretary of Natural Resources, the Secretary of the Environment, the Director of Planning, and the municipalities affected, shall determine appropriate boundaries for water supply service regions, wastewater purification service regions, and solid waste disposal service regions. Service regions shall be based upon needs set forth in, and provide integration of, approved State-county master plans for water and sewerage or solid waste disposal, adopted pursuant to the Environment Article, but also may take account of other plans and studies.

(b) As soon as possible after the determination of appropriate boundaries, the director, after consultation with the municipalities affected, shall establish priorities for designating water supply service regions, wastewater purification service regions, and solid waste disposal service regions and formally designate the regions.

(c) Identical service regions need not be designated for water supply, wastewater purification and solid waste disposal projects. [However, every part of the State shall be included in one of the service regions established in the State for water supply, wastewater purification, and solid waste disposal.] No part of the State may be included in more than one of these service regions.

(d) As soon as possible after designation of a service region, the Service shall cause surveys, plans, studies, and estimates to be made, and after consultation with the municipalities located within the service region, prepare a five-year plan for each service region for the most effective and economical means of providing water supply, wastewater purification and solid waste disposal projects. In preparing a five-year plan, the Service shall consider the effects of public versus private ownership of water and wastewater facilities upon the provision of dependable, effective, and efficient water and wastewater