

(2) Upon receiving a request for an advisory opinion under this subsection, the Commission, if requested by a member of the public, shall hold a public meeting to gather information relevant to the advisory opinion.

5-7B-06.

(a) The State may provide funding for a growth-related project not in a priority funding area without receiving approval from the Board of Public Works as provided under § 5-7B-05 of this subtitle for:

(1) a project that is required to protect public health or safety;

(2) a project involving federal funds, to the extent compliance with this subtitle would conflict or be inconsistent with federal law; or

(3) a growth-related project related to a commercial or industrial activity which, due to its operational or physical characteristics, shall be located away from other development, including:

(i) a natural resource based industry;

(ii) an industry relating to:

1. agricultural operations, as defined in § 7-101 of the Labor and Employment Article;

2. forestry activities; or

3. mineral extraction;

(iii) an industry that is proximate to:

1. an airport facility;

2. a port facility;

3. a railroad facility;

4. a transit facility; or

5. a major highway interchange; or

(iv) a tourism facility or museum that is required to be located away from other development due to necessary proximity to specific historic, natural, or cultural resources.

(b) A procedure for notification, review, and comment on exceptions proposed under this section shall be established jointly by the applicable State agency and the [Office] DEPARTMENT of Planning.

5-7B-08.

(a) To be eligible for funding for growth-related projects, a local government shall certify to the [Office] DEPARTMENT of Planning any area designated by the