

(3) The Secretary with the advice of the DIRECTOR OF THE MARYLAND ENERGY ADMINISTRATION AND THE Secretary of the Environment shall initiate a detailed investigation of any site proposed in the ten-year plan which appears desirable or acceptable on the basis of preliminary environmental statements. With respect to any site in the plan on which authorized construction has not commenced by July 1, 1974, at least two years before construction is estimated to begin and if the preponderance of newly offered scientific evidence does not justify a revised classification as unsuitable, the Secretary shall publish a detailed environmental statement on the site. The statement shall consider and include information developed in the program outlined in § 3-303.

(4) The Secretary, with the advice of the DIRECTOR OF THE MARYLAND ENERGY ADMINISTRATION, THE Secretary of the Environment and the Director of Planning, shall publish on a biennial basis, commencing July 1, 1972, a cumulative environmental impact report on all electric power plants operating in the State. The report shall include a section specifying the changes that can occur as additional electric power plants are constructed in accordance with the ten-year plan. It shall include recommendations to the Governor which delineate State environmental policy and objectives. The Director of Planning AND THE DIRECTOR OF THE MARYLAND ENERGY ADMINISTRATION shall JOINTLY include a section devoted exclusively to the question of growth and the specific growth related factors which necessitate specific additional increments of electric energy by development of a site in the ten-year plan. In preparing this section, [he] THEY shall consider the projected estimates and recommendations of electric company representatives.

3-305.

(a) The expertise of the electric utilities in the basic requirements, including environmental considerations, of a site for power generation and generator lead route is a needed element in site selection. Therefore, for the purposes of insuring adequate power on reasonable schedules while also protecting the quality of the State's environment, site acquisition and generator lead route designation may occur as follows:

(2) The Secretary, on the advice of the Secretary of Economic and Employment Development, shall acquire in the name of the State a sufficient number of sites to satisfy the expected requirements as submitted by the Director of Planning AND THE DIRECTOR OF THE MARYLAND ENERGY ADMINISTRATION, as provided in § 3-304(4) of this subtitle. Site selection shall be based on research findings that show the site is desirable for power plant construction. Following site acquisition, the Secretary and the local governing bodies of the areas through which the potential generator lead routes pass shall designate mutually one or more desirable routes. After designation of a route, each county within which the route is located shall designate the proposed public utility corridor by enactment of an ordinance or by incorporation in its appropriate land use plan. Any investigation to ascertain the suitability of a site for the construction of an electric generating station shall be completed within 2 years of the date the site has been identified. By the end of the 2 year period, the Secretary shall purchase or remove from consideration the site and make public his decision.