

HOUSE BILL 991

M3, M4

4lr2560
CF SB 1074

By: **Delegates Love, Bouchat, Miller, Rose, and Tomlinson**

Introduced and read first time: February 5, 2024

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Environment – Industrial Sludge Utilization Permit – Establishment**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing an industrial sludge utilization permit; prohibiting a
4 person from utilizing industrial sludge in the State unless the person obtains a
5 permit; requiring the Department of the Environment to provide certain notices and
6 information to certain persons; applying certain provisions of law regarding public
7 notice and participation to industrial sludge utilization permits; authorizing a
8 representative of the Department to enter and inspect any site where industrial
9 sludge is utilized; and generally relating to industrial sludge utilization permits.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
11 Article – Environment
12 Section 1–601(a)
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2013 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

15 BY adding to
16 Article – Environment
17 Section 9–293 through 9–299, 9–299.1, 9–299.2, 9–299.3, and 9–299.4 to be under
18 the new part “Part IX. Industrial Sludge”
19 Annotated Code of Maryland
20 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2023 Supplement)

21 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
22 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

23 **Article – Environment**

24 1–601.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(a) Permits issued by the Department under the following sections shall be issued in accordance with this subtitle:

(1) Air quality control permits to construct subject to § 2–404 of this article;

(2) Permits to install, materially alter, or materially extend landfill systems, incinerators for public use, or rubble landfills subject to § 9–209 of this article;

(3) Permits to discharge pollutants to waters of the State issued [pursuant to] **IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 9–323** of this article;

(4) Permits to install, materially alter, or materially extend a structure used for storage or distribution of any type of sewage sludge issued, renewed, or amended [pursuant to] **IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 9–234.1 or § 9–238** of this article;

(5) Permits to own, operate, establish, or maintain a controlled hazardous substance facility issued [pursuant to] **IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 7–232** of this article;

(6) Permits to own, operate, or maintain a hazardous material facility issued [pursuant to] **IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 7–103** of this article;

(7) Permits to own, operate, establish, or maintain a low-level nuclear waste facility issued [pursuant to] **IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 7–233** of this article;

(8) PERMITS TO UTILIZE INDUSTRIAL SLUDGE ISSUED IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 9–297 OF THIS ARTICLE; and

[(8)] (9) Potable reuse permits issued in accordance with § 9–303.2 of this article.

9–291. RESERVED.

9–292. RESERVED.

PART IX. INDUSTRIAL SLUDGE.

9–293.

(A) IN THIS PART THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(B) (1) “INDUSTRIAL SLUDGE” MEANS MATERIAL THAT IS:

(I) AN ACCUMULATED SEMILIQUID SUSPENSION OF SETTLED SOLIDS, OR DRIED RESIDUE OF THESE SOLIDS, THAT IS GENERATED AS A

1 BY-PRODUCT OF AN INDUSTRIAL, AGRICULTURAL, OR MANUFACTURING PROCESS;
2 AND

3 (II) INTENDED TO BE:

4 1. STORED OR APPLIED TO AGRICULTURAL LAND; OR

5 2. DISPOSED OF IN THE STATE.

6 (2) "INDUSTRIAL SLUDGE" INCLUDES MATERIAL SEPARATED FROM
7 LIQUID WASTE THROUGH A DISSOLVED AIR FLOTATION PROCESS.

8 (C) "PERMIT" MEANS AN INDUSTRIAL SLUDGE UTILIZATION PERMIT.

9 (D) "UTILIZATION" MEANS:

10 (1) COLLECTING, HANDLING, BURNING, STORING, OR TREATING
11 INDUSTRIAL SLUDGE FOR DISPOSAL OR LAND APPLICATION; AND

12 (2) TRANSPORTING INDUSTRIAL SLUDGE TO OR FROM AN
13 INDUSTRIAL SLUDGE GENERATOR OR UTILIZER IN THE STATE.

14 9-294.

15 (A) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN THIS PART, A PERSON MAY NOT UTILIZE
16 INDUSTRIAL SLUDGE IN THE STATE.

17 (B) A PERSON SHALL OBTAIN A PERMIT BEFORE UTILIZING INDUSTRIAL
18 SLUDGE IN THE STATE.

19 (C) A PERMIT AUTHORIZES THE PERMIT HOLDER TO UTILIZE INDUSTRIAL
20 SLUDGE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THE PERMIT.

21 (D) A PERSON MUST HAVE A PERMIT FOR EACH SITE WHERE THE PERSON
22 UTILIZES INDUSTRIAL SLUDGE.

23 9-295.

24 AN APPLICANT FOR A PERMIT SHALL:

25 (1) SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO THE DEPARTMENT ON THE FORM
26 THAT THE DEPARTMENT REQUIRES;

1 (2) CERTIFY BY SIGNATURE THE TRUTH AND ACCURACY OF THE
2 COMPLETED APPLICATION;

3 (3) PAY ANY ASSOCIATED APPLICATION FEES AT THE SAME TIME
4 THAT THE APPLICATION IS SUBMITTED;

5 (4) PROVIDE THE NAME AND ADDRESS OF ANY SOURCE OF
6 INDUSTRIAL SLUDGE THAT WILL BE UTILIZED;

7 (5) OBTAIN THE WRITTEN CONSENT OF THE OWNER OF THE LAND
8 WHERE THE INDUSTRIAL SLUDGE WILL BE APPLIED, INCLUDING AN AGREEMENT
9 FROM THE OWNER THAT THE OWNER WILL NOT VIOLATE THE PERMIT;

10 (6) AGREE TO ALLOW OR SECURE ACCESS TO THE INDUSTRIAL
11 SLUDGE UTILIZATION SITE FOR ANY INSPECTION AUTHORIZED UNDER THIS PART;

12 (7) PROVIDE THE DEPARTMENT WITH ACCEPTABLE EVIDENCE OF A
13 PERFORMANCE BOND OR OTHER SECURITY IN THE AMOUNT THAT THE
14 DEPARTMENT CONSIDERS SUFFICIENT TO GUARANTEE THE FULFILLMENT OF ANY
15 REQUIREMENT RELATED TO THE PERMIT; AND

16 (8) SATISFY EVERY OTHER REQUIREMENT OF THIS PART.

17 **9-296.**

18 (A) WITHIN 10 DAYS AFTER RECEIVING A PERMIT APPLICATION TO STORE
19 INDUSTRIAL SLUDGE AT A FACILITY THAT IS PROPOSED FOR CONSTRUCTION AND
20 WILL BE DESIGNED TO PRIMARILY STORE INDUSTRIAL SLUDGE FOR LATER
21 UTILIZATION, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL:

22 (1) PUBLISH NOTICE OF THE APPLICATION IN A LOCAL NEWSPAPER
23 THAT IS PRIMARILY IN CIRCULATION IN THE COUNTY WHERE THE INDUSTRIAL
24 SLUDGE WILL BE APPLIED OR THE FACILITY WILL BE CONSTRUCTED;

25 (2) MAIL A COPY OF THE NOTICE TO:

26 (I) THE LOCAL HEALTH OFFICIAL IN THE COUNTY WHERE THE
27 INDUSTRIAL SLUDGE WILL BE APPLIED OR THE FACILITY WILL BE CONSTRUCTED;

28 (II) THE CHAIR OF THE LEGISLATIVE BODY AND ANY ELECTED
29 EXECUTIVE IN THE COUNTY WHERE THE INDUSTRIAL SLUDGE WILL BE APPLIED OR
30 THE FACILITY WILL BE CONSTRUCTED;

1 (III) THE ELECTED EXECUTIVE OF ANY MUNICIPAL
2 CORPORATION WHERE THE INDUSTRIAL SLUDGE WILL BE APPLIED OR THE FACILITY
3 WILL BE CONSTRUCTED; AND

4 (IV) ANY COUNTY WITHIN 1 MILE OF WHERE THE INDUSTRIAL
5 SLUDGE WILL BE APPLIED OR THE FACILITY WILL BE CONSTRUCTED; AND

6 (3) POST THE NOTICE ON THE DEPARTMENT'S WEBSITE.

7 (B) WITHIN 15 DAYS AFTER RECEIVING A NOTICE UNDER SUBSECTION (A)
8 OF THIS SECTION, THE EXECUTIVE OR LEGISLATIVE BODY OF THE COUNTY OR
9 MUNICIPAL CORPORATION WHERE THE INDUSTRIAL SLUDGE WILL BE APPLIED OR
10 THE FACILITY WILL BE CONSTRUCTED MAY REQUEST THAT THE DEPARTMENT HOLD
11 A PUBLIC HEARING.

12 **9-297.**

13 (A) (1) THE DEPARTMENT MAY ISSUE A PERMIT TO AN APPLICANT THAT
14 SATISFIES THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS PART.

15 (2) THE DEPARTMENT MAY NOT ISSUE A PERMIT TO AN APPLICANT IF
16 THE DEPARTMENT DETERMINES THAT AN APPLICANT CANNOT UTILIZE INDUSTRIAL
17 SLUDGE WITHOUT:

18 (I) CAUSING UNDUE RISK TO:

19 1. THE ENVIRONMENT; OR

20 2. PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY, OR WELFARE; OR

21 (II) OTHERWISE VIOLATING THIS PART.

22 (B) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE EACH COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL
23 CORPORATION THAT RECEIVES A NOTICE UNDER § 9-296 OF THIS SUBTITLE WITH
24 AN OPPORTUNITY TO CONSULT WITH THE DEPARTMENT ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT'S
25 DECISION TO ISSUE, DENY, OR PLACE CONDITIONS ON A PERMIT.

26 (C) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL SEND THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION TO THE
27 LOCAL HEALTH OFFICIAL AND LOCAL SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT IN THE
28 COUNTY FOR WHICH A PERMIT APPLICATION IS RECEIVED:

29 (1) A COPY OF ANY PERMIT ISSUED IN THE COUNTY;

(2) A NOTICE OF THE DENIAL OF A PERMIT APPLICATION THAT WOULD HAVE AUTHORIZED THE UTILIZATION OF INDUSTRIAL SLUDGE IN THE COUNTY;

(3) A NOTICE OF THE SUSPENSION, REVOCATION, MODIFICATION, OR TERMINATION OF A PERMIT ISSUED IN THE COUNTY;

(4) A COPY OF ANY NOTICE, COMPLAINT, OR ORDER THE DEPARTMENT ISSUES UNDER THIS PART THAT RELATES TO THE COUNTY; AND

(5) A COPY OF ANY REPORT FILED WITH THE DEPARTMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH A CONDITION OF A PERMIT.

(D) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL MAINTAIN A PERMANENT PUBLIC RECORD ON THE DEPARTMENT'S WEBSITE OF ALL PERMITS ISSUED UNDER THIS PART.

9-298.

(A) (1) SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, A PERMIT SHALL EXPIRE ON THE DATE THE DEPARTMENT SETS AT THE TIME THE PERMIT IS ISSUED OR RENEWED.

(2) THE TERM OF A PERMIT MAY NOT LAST FOR MORE THAN 3 YEARS.

(B) (1) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION, THE DEPARTMENT MAY RENEW A PERMIT IF THE PERMIT HOLDER:

(I) IS IN COMPLIANCE WITH:

1. THE CONDITIONS OF THE PERMIT;
2. THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS PART; AND
3. ALL APPLICABLE REGULATIONS ESTABLISHED BY THE DEPARTMENT;

(II) SUBMITS TO THE DEPARTMENT IN A TIMELY MANNER A RENEWAL APPLICATION ON THE FORM THAT THE DEPARTMENT REQUIRES; AND

(III) PAYS A RENEWAL APPLICATION FEE.

(2) THE DEPARTMENT MAY REFUSE TO RENEW A PERMIT IF:

(I) THE PERMIT HOLDER VIOLATES THIS PART, ANY REGULATION ADOPTED BY THE DEPARTMENT UNDER THIS PART, OR ANY CONDITION OF THE PERMIT;

(II) THE DEPARTMENT DETERMINES THAT CONTINUED OPERATION OF ANY AREA COVERED BY THE PERMIT WOULD BE INJURIOUS TO THE ENVIRONMENT OR PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY, OR WELFARE; OR

(III) THE DEPARTMENT DETERMINES THAT THERE IS ANY OTHER GOOD CAUSE.

(C) THE DEPARTMENT MAY NOT RENEW OR MODIFY A PERMIT TO STORE OR DISTRIBUTE INDUSTRIAL SLUDGE AT A FACILITY THAT WILL BE INSTALLED OR MATERIALLY ALTERED UNLESS THE DEPARTMENT HOLDS A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE RENEWAL OR MODIFICATION.

9-299.

TO MAINTAIN A PERMIT IN GOOD STANDING, A PERMIT HOLDER SHALL:

(1) MAINTAIN A PERFORMANCE BOND OR OTHER SECURITY IN THE AMOUNT THAT THE DEPARTMENT CONSIDERS SUFFICIENT TO GUARANTEE THE FULFILLMENT OF ANY REQUIREMENT RELATED TO THE PERMIT;

(2) ENSURE THAT INDUSTRIAL SLUDGE IS NOT APPLIED FOR MORE THAN 365 DAYS WITHIN ANY 3-YEAR PERIOD;

(3) ENSURE THAT INDUSTRIAL SLUDGE IS APPLIED:

(I) BY SUBSURFACE INJECTION;

(II) UNIFORMLY AND AT A RATE THAT DOES NOT CONTRIBUTE TO RUNOFF;

(III) ONLY ON SOIL THAT:

1. CONTAINS GROUNDWATER THAT IS MORE THAN 20 INCHES FROM THE DEPTH OF TILLAGE AS DETERMINED BY TEMPORARY SOIL BORINGS BEFORE LAND APPLICATION; AND

2. DOES NOT CONTAIN STANDING WATER, SNOW COVER GREATER THAN 1 INCH, OR HARD-FROZEN CONDITIONS GREATER THAN 2 INCHES;

(IV) ONLY FROM MARCH 1 TO DECEMBER 15, INCLUSIVE, OF ANY CALENDAR YEAR;

(V) ONLY IF A CROP IS PLANTED WITHIN 30 DAYS AFTER APPLICATION UNLESS OTHERWISE APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT;

(VI) ONLY IF A COVER CROP OR APPROPRIATE WINTER CROP IS ESTABLISHED AT THE APPLICATION SITE; AND

(VII) IN LOCATIONS THAT DO NOT INTERFERE WITH THE BUFFER AREAS ESTABLISHED BY THE DEPARTMENT IN REGULATION UNDER § 9-299.4 OF THIS SUBTITLE;

(4) KEEP RECORDS REGARDING THE UTILIZATION OF INDUSTRIAL SLUDGE, INCLUDING DAILY RECORDS OF THE SOURCE AND AMOUNT OF INDUSTRIAL SLUDGE IN EACH TRUCKLOAD DELIVERED TO A SITE;

(5) MAKE REPORTS, INCLUDING INDUSTRIAL SLUDGE ANALYSIS REPORTS, AS OFTEN AS NECESSARY TO ENSURE THE INDUSTRIAL SLUDGE MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE PERMIT;

(6) HAVE A COPY OF THE REPORT REQUIRED UNDER ITEM (5) OF THIS SECTION AVAILABLE IN THE VEHICLE TRANSPORTING THE INDUSTRIAL SLUDGE;

(7) INSTALL, CALIBRATE, USE, AND MAINTAIN MONITORING EQUIPMENT OR METHODS, INCLUDING BIOLOGICAL MONITORING METHODS AND WELL MONITORING IF APPROPRIATE;

(8) TAKE SAMPLES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE METHOD, LOCATION, FREQUENCY, AND MANNER REQUIREMENTS SET BY THE DEPARTMENT;

(9) PROVIDE TO THE DEPARTMENT OR THE RELEVANT LOCAL HEALTH OFFICIAL ANY INFORMATION THAT THE DEPARTMENT REQUIRES; AND

(10) COMPLY WITH ANY OTHER REQUIREMENT SET BY THE DEPARTMENT.

9-299.1.

THE DEPARTMENT MAY SUSPEND, REVOKE, OR MODIFY A PERMIT ISSUED UNDER THIS PART IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE ACT IF THE DEPARTMENT FINDS THAT:

1 (1) THE PERMIT APPLICATION CONTAINED FALSE OR INACCURATE
2 INFORMATION;

3 (2) THERE HAS BEEN A SUBSTANTIAL DEVIATION FROM:

4 (i) THE PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS, OR OTHER DOCUMENTS
5 APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT; OR

6 (ii) ANY REQUIREMENT ESTABLISHED BY THE DEPARTMENT;

7 (3) A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DEPARTMENT SEEKING TO INSPECT
8 A SITE IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 9-299.2 OF THIS SUBTITLE HAS BEEN REFUSED
9 ENTRY TO ANY AREA COVERED BY THE PERMIT;

10 (4) THERE IS OR HAS BEEN A VIOLATION OF THIS PART, ANY
11 REGULATION ADOPTED UNDER THIS PART, OR ANY CONDITION OF THE PERMIT; OR

12 (5) THERE IS ANY OTHER GOOD CAUSE AS DETERMINED BY THE
13 DEPARTMENT.

14 **9-299.2.**

15 (A) TO ENFORCE THIS PART AND TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH A PERMIT,
16 A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE DEPARTMENT MAY ENTER AND INSPECT, AT ANY
17 REASONABLE TIME, ANY SITE WHERE INDUSTRIAL SLUDGE IS UTILIZED.

18 (B) A PERMIT HOLDER OR OTHER PERSON AT A SITE WHERE INDUSTRIAL
19 SLUDGE IS UTILIZED MAY NOT:

20 (1) REFUSE ACCESS TO THE SITE TO ANY REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
21 DEPARTMENT THAT REQUESTS ACCESS UNDER THIS SECTION; OR

22 (2) INTERFERE WITH ANY INSPECTION UNDER THIS PART.

23 (C) AFTER COMPLETING AN INSPECTION UNDER THIS SECTION, THE
24 DEPARTMENT SHALL ISSUE A STOP WORK ORDER OR OTHER ORDER IF NECESSARY
25 TO OBTAIN COMPLIANCE WITH STATE LAW, REGULATIONS, OR A PERMIT.

26 **9-299.3.**

27 (A) IN ADDITION TO ANY OTHER REMEDY AUTHORIZED UNDER THIS
28 SUBTITLE, THE DEPARTMENT MAY BRING AN ACTION TO ENJOIN THE VIOLATION OF

1 ANY LAW, REGULATION, OR ORDER CONCERNING THE UTILIZATION OF INDUSTRIAL
2 SLUDGE UNDER THIS PART.

3 (B) (1) ANY PERSON THAT OWNS LAND THAT ADJOINS LAND FOR WHICH
4 AN APPLICATION TO APPLY INDUSTRIAL SLUDGE IS FILED OR FOR WHICH A PERMIT
5 TO APPLY INDUSTRIAL SLUDGE IS ISSUED HAS STANDING:

6 (I) TO SUE THE STATE, THE APPLICANT, OR THE PERMIT
7 HOLDER TO REQUIRE COMPLIANCE WITH THIS PART AND ANY PERMIT ISSUED
8 UNDER THIS PART; AND

9 (II) WITH RESPECT TO THE INDUSTRIAL SLUDGE UTILIZATION
10 SITE, TO INTERVENE IN ANY:

11 1. CIVIL COURT PROCEEDING; AND

12 2. CONTESTED ADMINISTRATIVE CASE.

13 (2) ANY COUNTY OR MUNICIPAL CORPORATION IN WHICH THERE IS
14 LAND FOR WHICH AN APPLICATION TO APPLY INDUSTRIAL SLUDGE IS FILED OR FOR
15 WHICH A PERMIT TO APPLY INDUSTRIAL SLUDGE IS ISSUED HAS STANDING:

16 (I) TO SUE THE APPLICANT OR THE PERMIT HOLDER TO
17 REQUIRE COMPLIANCE WITH THIS PART AND ANY PERMIT ISSUED UNDER THIS PART;
18 AND

19 (II) WITH RESPECT TO THE INDUSTRIAL SLUDGE UTILIZATION
20 SITE, TO INTERVENE IN ANY:

21 1. CIVIL COURT PROCEEDING; AND

22 2. CONTESTED ADMINISTRATIVE CASE.

23 9-299.4.

24 (A) (1) SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE
25 DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO CARRY OUT THIS PART.

26 (2) THE DEPARTMENT MAY NOT ADOPT A REGULATION OR PART OF A
27 REGULATION THAT DEALS WITH THE STORAGE OR LAND APPLICATION OF
28 INDUSTRIAL SLUDGE MATERIAL ON AGRICULTURAL LAND UNLESS THE
29 DEPARTMENT CONSULTS WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

(B) (1) THE REGULATIONS ADOPTED UNDER THIS PART SHALL ADDRESS:

(I) ALTERNATIVE UTILIZATION METHODS;

(II) CONTROL OF PATHOGENS AND POLLUTANTS OF CONCERN IDENTIFIED BY THE DEPARTMENT;

(III) ADVERTISING REQUIREMENTS FOR PUBLIC HEARINGS AND PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETINGS;

(IV) PERFORMANCE BONDS, LIABILITY INSURANCE, OR OTHER FORMS OF SECURITY;

(V) PROCEDURES FOR NOTIFYING UNITS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES;

(VI) ADEQUATE STANDARDS FOR TRANSPORTING INDUSTRIAL SLUDGE;

(VII) EXISTING LAWS AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE APPLICATION AND SUITABILITY OF SOIL AMENDMENTS FOR LAND APPLICATION;

(VIII) METHODS FOR CALCULATING LOADING RATES THAT:

1. WILL ENSURE NONDEGRADATION OF THE GROUNDWATER; AND

2. ARE LIMITED BY THE NUTRIENT REQUIREMENTS OF CROP OR COVER VEGETATION, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE;

(IX) THE CROPS THAT ARE TO BE GROWN ON LAND ON WHICH INDUSTRIAL SLUDGE MAY BE APPLIED;

(X) THE NATURE OF ANY NEARBY SURFACE WATER OR GROUNDWATER;

(XI) THE CHARACTER OF ANY AFFECTED AREA;

(XII) THE CHARACTER OF NEARBY EXISTING OR PLANNED LAND USES AND TRANSPORT ROUTES;

(XIII) THE NEARNESS OF THE LAND ON WHICH INDUSTRIAL SLUDGE MAY BE APPLIED TO SENSITIVE AREAS, INCLUDING FLOOD PLAINS, WETLANDS, AND AREAS OF CRITICAL CONCERN;

(XIV) THE DEFINITIONS OF:

1. INDUSTRIAL SLUDGE THAT IS UNSUITABLE FOR APPLICATION TO AGRICULTURAL LAND;

2. AGRICULTURAL LAND;

3. MARGINAL LAND; AND

4. COMPOST;

(XV) ACCEPTABLE CUMULATIVE LOADING RATES, INCLUDING RATES FOR NITROGEN, PHOSPHORUS, AND HEAVY METALS; AND

(XVI) SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, REASONABLE BUFFER AREAS TO SEPARATE ANY HOME, AGRICULTURAL LAND, OR OTHER PROPERTY FROM LAND ON WHICH INDUSTRIAL SLUDGE MAY BE APPLIED.

(2) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL CONSULT WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF BUFFER AREAS TO SEPARATE AGRICULTURAL LAND FROM LAND ON WHICH INDUSTRIAL SLUDGE MAY BE APPLIED.

(C) (1) SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO ESTABLISH AND UPDATE PERMIT APPLICATION FEES.

(2) (I) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC INPUT ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF A FEE SCHEDULE UNDER THIS SECTION.

(II) A FEE SCHEDULE DEVELOPED UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL INCLUDE CONSIDERATION OF:

1. THE ANTICIPATED COSTS OF MONITORING AND REGULATING INDUSTRIAL SLUDGE UTILIZATION SITES;

2. THE ANTICIPATED COSTS OF IMPLEMENTING THIS PART; AND

4 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
5 October 1, 2024.