



MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

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Deputy Secretary

JAN 21 2009

The Honorable Brian Lockhart
President, Cecil County Commissioners
200 Chesapeake Blvd., Suite 2100
Elkton, MD 21921

Dear Commissioner Lockhart:

The Maryland Department of the Environment, Water Management Administration (MDE/WMA) recently completed a review of Cecil County's application for continued delegation of erosion and sediment control enforcement authority. This authority has been historically limited to single-family residential sites using standard plans. During the review process, MDE found good erosion and sediment control compliance and excellent enforcement on both single-family sites and in larger subdivisions throughout the County.

This high level of performance is consistent with prior MDE reviews. Through its current grading ordinance, knowledgeable staff, and other mechanisms, the County is successfully operating similar to a fully delegated jurisdiction. MDE commends the County's efforts and encourages local control of environmental programs wherever feasible. For these reasons, I am asking Cecil County to seriously consider applying for full delegation of erosion and sediment control enforcement authority.

This can be done at anytime and does not need to wait until the next review period. In the meantime, MDE is pleased to grant continued partial delegation of erosion and sediment control enforcement authority for single-family residential construction. This delegation is effective July 1, 2009 for the maximum two-year period. Continuation of delegation beyond June 30, 2011 requires reapplication to MDE by October 1, 2010.

I would like to thank your staff for their assistance during the review process. A copy of our current evaluation is enclosed for your use. If you have any questions regarding our review or about applying for full delegation please call me at (410) 537-3567, or Mr. Ken Pensyl, Program Administrator, Sediment, Stormwater and Dam Safety Program at (410) 537-3543.

Sincerely,

Jay Sakai, Director
Water Management Administration

Enclosure

cc: Mr. W. Scott Flanigan, P.E., Cecil County Department of Public Works
Mr. Charles Hayes, Cecil Soil Conservation District

