



## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION III

841 Chestnut Building Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107

SEP 3 0 1991

TO

Honorable William Donald Schaefer Governor of Maryland Annapolis, MD 21404

Dear Governor Schaefer:

It is with great pleasure that I am today approving the State of Maryland's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permits Program in accordance with 40 CFR Parts 122 and 123. I am also herewith authorizing the State of Maryland to administer the General Permits Program as it applies to municipalities, industries and individuals within the State.

You and the Department of the Environment staff are to be congratulated for the diligent effort put forth in moving to assume administration of this important environmental program. delegation of the General Permits Program will allow the State to meet the Federal storm water permitting deadlines. The program will also regulate discharges of wastewater which are more appropriately controlled under a general permit rather than by individual NPDES permits, thus saving valuable resources.

The Environmental Protection Agency looks forward to working with you and the Department of the Environment in continuing our efforts toward the prevention and control of water pollution in the State of Maryland.

Sincerely,

Edwin B. Erickson

Regional Administrator

W.T. Wumewskir

cc: Robert Perciasepe, Secretary Maryland Department of the Environment