



December 17, 2015

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By First Class Mail and Electronic Mail to ben.grumbles@maryland.gov

The Honorable Benjamin H. Grumbles
Secretary
Maryland Department of the Environment
Montgomery Park Business Center,
1800 Washington Blvd., Baltimore, MD 21230

Re: Enforcement Report

Dear Secretary Grumbles,

Advisory Council

Patricia Bauman
Frances Beinecke
Eula Bingham
W. Thompson Comerford, Jr.
Sally Greenberg
John Passacantando
Henry Waxman
Robert Weissman

As you know, § 1-301(d) of the Environment Article requires the Department of the Environment to produce an annual report on its enforcement activities by October 1 each year. This requirement was created by SB 324 of 1997, sponsored by then-Senator Brian Frosh, and signed into law by Governor Parris Glendening. Colloquially known as the "Frosh Report," the fiscal 2015 report due to be submitted to the Legislative Policy Committee of the Maryland General Assembly and the public is now nearly three months late.

As we approach important deadlines for compliance with the Chesapeake Bay Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL), the importance of vigilant inspections and robust enforcement by the Department of the Environment comes into sharp relief. The Frosh Report is a crucial transparency tool allowing the public to track progress toward achieving the Bay TMDL and other pollution reduction efforts. We hope you will issue the report at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

Rena Steinzor
Center for Progressive Reform

Jon Jacobs
Environmental Action Center

Jon Mueller
Chesapeake Bay Foundation

Eric Schaeffer
Environmental Integrity Project

Russell Stevenson
Chesapeake Legal Alliance

Betsy Nicholas
Waterkeepers Chesapeake

cc: The Honorable Brian E. Frosh