



Maryland
Department of
the Environment

Larry Hogan
Governor

Boyd Rutherford
Lieutenant Governor

Ben Grumbles
Secretary

September 8, 2016

Mr. Larry Herald
Sales Manager
Suntree Technologies, Incorporated
798 Clearlake Road
Cocoa, FL 32922

Dear Mr. Herald:

Thank you for your letter to the Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) regarding the Suntree Technologies' Nutrient Separating Baffle Box (NSBB). MDE has evaluated the product's description and supporting information with respect to potential treatment applications in Maryland. We offer the following:

In Maryland, environmental site design (ESD) must be used to the maximum extent practicable (MEP) to reduce runoff and mimic natural hydrology. The use of ESD planning techniques and practices must be exhausted before any approved structural practices may be used. MDE considers the NSBB to be a proprietary structural device similar to catch basin inserts or hydrodynamic separators. While practices like the NSBB do not meet Maryland's water quality performance criteria, they may be used to pre-treat stormwater as part of a series of practices. Additionally, MDE believes that circumstances exist, such as retrofit or redevelopment projects, where these practices may be appropriate. However, use of these practices for retrofit projects may be limited in jurisdictions covered under an MDE-issued National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) permit.

The Department has no objections to the NSBB system's use for redevelopment, pretreatment, and retrofitting provided it is accepted locally. However, local jurisdictions may request that a letter from MDE be provided verifying product classification. Please consider this that letter. Thank you again for your interest. If you have any questions, please contact me at (410) 537-3550 or by email at stewart.comstock@maryland.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stewart R. Comstock".

Stewart R. Comstock, P.E.
Senior Regulatory and Compliance Engineer
Program Review Division
Sediment, Stormwater, and Dam Safety Program