Kathy M. Kinsey  
Special Policy Advisor  
Maryland Department of the Environment

In her role as special policy advisor at Maryland’s Department of the Environment (MDE), Kathy M. Kinsey is responsible for tracking federal legislative policy issues and working with the department’s executive staff, the governor’s office, Maryland’s congressional delegation, and other state agencies to coordinate and advance Maryland’s environmental policies on climate change, energy, air pollution, Chesapeake Bay restoration and other matters at the federal level. She advises MDE’s executive and senior staff on policy matters, facilitates implementation of regulatory initiatives, and assists with the development and coordination of state legislative initiatives.

Prior to her work as special policy advisor, Kinsey worked for the Office of the Attorney General as deputy counsel for MDE. In that position, she supervised 18 assistant attorneys general providing comprehensive representation on all aspects of environmental law to an agency with 900 employees and a $100 million budget. Agency representation included prosecution of civil environmental enforcement actions, defensive litigation, and all other agency issues, including personnel, procurement, transactional, tort and government law matters. Significant matters included representation of the state as intervenor in an action challenging EPA’s conditional approval of the Washington, D.C. 1-hour ozone nonattainment SIP, as well as a joint federal-state power plant settlement agreement resulting in a significant system-wide reduction in emissions of nitrogen oxides.

Kinsey is a graduate of the University of Maryland College Park and the University of Maryland School of Law.