

**NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACT (EXCERPT)**  
**Act 451 of 1994**

**324.33911 Granting deeds to certain property; requirements.**

Sec. 33911.

(1) Upon application of a person that holds a lease from this state of any portion or portions of the real property described in this part, the department may execute and deliver to the applicant a deed conveying all of the right, title, and interest of this state in and to that real property, subject to the paramount rights of hunting, fishing, and navigation, which remain in the general public and in the government as recognized by law. The deeds shall contain the same provisions as to use and occupancy now set forth in all the leases previously granted under former 1913 PA 326 or under this part. The department shall not grant a deed under this part unless the lessee of the subject property agrees to cancel the lease and relinquishes all rights under the lease.

(2) The department shall not grant a deed under this part for a lot that contains a structure unless the structure and the lot subject to the deed, including seawalls where present, comply with the applicable township building code and county and state sanitation codes and part 325, and the structure is located on a parcel of land that is adequately protected from erosion.

(3) A deed granted under this part shall not include a portion of the original lease that is submerged or lies below the elevation of 575.3 International Great Lakes Datum (IGLD 1985). The department of environmental quality shall perform a site inspection and set stakes, if necessary, to identify the boundaries of the area of the leased lot to be deeded. The applicant shall provide a boundary survey, completed by a professional surveyor, that delineates the area of the real property to be deeded. The state shall retain proprietary ownership in trust over the portion of the leased lot below the ordinary high-water mark of Lake St. Clair at the time of the conveyance.

(4) A deed shall not be granted under this part at less than the estimated land value of the real property as determined by the township in which the real property is located. Appraisal procedures and practices may include utilizing independent fee appraisal contractors. The appraisal shall not include improvements such as buildings, seawalls, and docks. Credit shall not be granted to the lessee for the years remaining on an unexpired lease when determining the sale value to the state. The applicant shall remit the full consideration within 1 year after being notified in writing of the selling price by the department. If the applicant does not remit the full consideration for the deed within 1 year, the department shall close the file and a new application must be submitted.

(5) If the applicant is not satisfied with the fair market value determined by the department under subsection (4), the applicant, within 30 days after receiving the determination, may submit a petition in writing to the circuit court in the thirty-first judicial circuit, and the court shall appoint an appraiser or appraisers from the department's approved listing to conduct an appraisal of the parcel. The decision of the court is final. The applicant shall pay all costs associated with this additional appraisal.

(6) A request for a deed shall be on a form provided by the department of environmental quality and shall be accompanied by an application fee of \$500.00.

**History:** Add. 1995, Act 59, Imd. Eff. May 24, 1995 ;-- Am. 2006, Act 496, Imd. Eff. Dec. 29, 2006

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