

CHAPTER 24—GEOTHERMAL ENERGY RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, AND DEMONSTRATION

- Sec.
1101. Congressional findings.
1102. Definitions.

SUBCHAPTER I—GEOTHERMAL ENERGY COORDINATION AND MANAGEMENT PROJECT

1121. Formation of Project.
 (a) Establishment.
 (b) Composition; members and chairman.
 (c) Responsibility for geothermal energy research, development, and demonstration program.
 (d) Allocation of functions to certain agencies; loaning of personnel.
 (e) Exclusive authority of the Project.
1122. Program definition.
 1123. Resource inventory and assessment program.
 1124. Research and development.
 1125. Geothermal demonstration plants and projects.
 (a) Design and construction.
 (b) Establishment of demonstration projects.
 (c) Agreements for the cooperative development of facilities for demonstration.
 (d) Construction of demonstration projects without entering into agreements.
 (e) Factors considered for entry into agreements.
 (f) Limits on project costs.
 (g) Disposal of Federal property interests and resource byproducts.
1126. Scientific and technical education.
 (a) Congressional declaration of policy.
 (b) Support of educational programs in science and engineering.
 (c) Selection of programs of education; coordination with National Science Foundation.
 (d) International participation and cooperation.

SUBCHAPTER II—LOAN GUARANTIES

1141. Establishment of loan guaranty program.
 (a) Congressional declaration of policy.
 (b) Authorization of heads of designated agencies to guarantee loans.
 (c) Extent of guarantee.
 (d) Terms and conditions of guaranties.
 (e) Limitations on amount of guaranty; exceptions; procedures applicable.
 (f) "Qualified borrower" defined.
 (g) Payment of interest; criteria.
 (h) Pledge of full faith and credit of United States to guaranties.
 (i) Fees for guaranties; amount, collection, etc.
 (j) Minimization of capital market impact of guaranties.
1142. Payment of guaranteed obligation by Secretary of Energy.
 (a) Default by borrower and demand by holder of obligation of unpaid amount; amount of payment by Secretary of Energy; defenses available; forbearance by holder of obligation.
 (b) Rights and authorities of Secretary of Energy upon payment.
 (c) Rights and authorities of Attorney General upon default on any guarantee.
 (d) Contracts to pay, and payment, from Geothermal Resources Development Fund of principal and interest of unpaid balance of obligation; preconditions.

- Sec.
1143. Period of guaranties and interest assistance.
 1144. Geothermal Resources Development Fund.
 (a) Establishment; purposes for which Fund moneys may be expended.
 (b) Deposits into the Fund.
 (c) Borrowing authority of Secretary of Energy.
 (d) Omitted.
1145. Community impact assistance functions of Secretary of Energy.
 (a) Determination of adequacy of community planning and development financing in covered project localities; review of State and local actions and sufficiency of available financing for projects on leased Federal lands.
 (b) Discretionary activities for communities with projects not subject to coverage.
 (c) Guarantees, commitments to guarantee, direct loans, and grants; scope, terms and conditions, amount, etc.
1146. Approval or disapproval of loan guarantee applications.
 1147. Application of national environmental policy provisions.

SUBCHAPTER III—GENERAL PROVISIONS

1161. Protection of environment.
 1162. Final report to President and Congress on terminated projects.
 1163. Transfer of functions.
 1164. Authorization of appropriations.
 (a) Fiscal years ending June 30, 1976, and September 30, 1977, through September 30, 1980.
 (b) Fiscal year ending June 30, 1975.
 (c) Additional sums for Project.

CHAPTER REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This chapter is referred to in title 42 sections 5902, 5905, 7135a.

§ 1101. Congressional findings

The Congress hereby finds that—

(1) the Nation is currently suffering a critical shortage of environmentally acceptable forms of energy;

(2) the inadequate organizational structures and levels of funding for energy research have limited the Nation's current and future options for meeting energy needs;

(3) electric energy is a clean and convenient form of energy at the location of its use and is the only practicable form of energy in some modern applications, but the demand for electric energy in every region of the United States is taxing all of the alternative energy sources presently available and is projected to increase; some of the sources available for electric power generation are already in short supply, and the development and use of other sources presently involve undesirable environmental impacts;

(4) the Nation's critical energy problems can be solved only if a national commitment is made to dedicate the necessary financial resources, and enlist the cooperation of the private and public sectors, in developing geothermal resources and other nonconventional sources of energy;

(5) the conventional geothermal resources which are presently being used have limited

total potential; but geothermal resources which are different from those presently being used, and which have extremely large energy content, are known to exist;

(6) some geothermal resources contain energy in forms other than heat; examples are methane and extremely high pressures available upon release as kinetic energy;

(7) some geothermal resources contain valuable byproducts such as potable water and mineral compounds which should be processed and recovered as national resources;

(8) technologies are not presently available for the development of most of these geothermal resources, but technologies for the generation of electric energy from geothermal resources are potentially economical and environmentally desirable, and the development of geothermal resources offers possibilities of process energy and other nonelectric applications;

(9) much of the known geothermal resources exist on the public lands;

(10) Federal financial assistance is necessary to encourage the extensive exploration, research, and development in geothermal resources which will bring these technologies to the point of commercial application;

(11) the advancement of technology with the cooperation of private industry for the production of useful forms of energy from geothermal resources is important with respect to the Federal responsibility for the general welfare, to facilitate commerce, to encourage productive harmony between man and his environment, and to protect the public interest; and

(12) the Federal Government should encourage and assist private industry through Federal assistance for the development and demonstration of practicable means to produce useful energy from geothermal resources with environmentally acceptable processes.

(Pub. L. 93-410, § 2, Sept. 3, 1974, 88 Stat. 1079.)

SHORT TITLE

Section 1 of Pub. L. 93-410 provided that: "This Act [enacting this chapter] may be cited as the 'Geothermal Energy Research, Development, and Demonstration Act of 1974'."

§ 1102. Definitions

For the purposes of this chapter—

(1) the term "geothermal resources" means (A) all products of geothermal processes, embracing indigenous steam, hot water, and brines, (B) steam and other gases, hot water and hot brines, resulting from water, gas, or other fluids artificially introduced into geothermal formations, and (C) any byproduct derived from them;

(2) the term "byproduct" means any mineral or minerals which are found in solution or in association with geothermal resources and which have a value of less than 75 percent of the value of the geothermal steam and associated geothermal resources or are not, because of quantity, quality, or technical difficulties in extraction and production, of sufficient value to warrant extraction and production by themselves;

(3) "pilot plant" means an experimental unit of small size used for early evaluation and de-

velopment of new or improved processes and to obtain technical, engineering, and cost data;

(4) "demonstration plant" means a complete facility which produces electricity, heat energy, or useful byproducts for commercial disposal from geothermal resources and which will make a significant contribution to the knowledge of full-size technology, plant operation, and process economics;

(5) the term "Project" means the Geothermal Energy Coordination and Management Project established by section 1121(a) of this title;

(6) the term "fund" means the Geothermal Resources Development Fund established by section 1144(a) of this title; and

(7) the term "Chairman" means the Chairman of the Project.

(Pub. L. 93-410, § 3, Sept. 3, 1974, 88 Stat. 1080.)

SUBCHAPTER I—GEOTHERMAL ENERGY COORDINATION AND MANAGEMENT PROJECT

SUBCHAPTER REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This subchapter is referred to in section 1161 of this title.

§ 1121. Formation of Project

(a) Establishment

There is hereby established the Geothermal Energy Coordination and Management Project.

(b) Composition; members and chairman

(1) The Project shall be composed of six members as follows:

(A) one appointed by the President;

(B) an Assistant Director of the National Science Foundation;

(C) an Assistant Secretary of the Department of the Interior;

(D) an Associate Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration;

(E) the Assistant Administrator of the Energy Research and Development Administration for Solar, Geothermal, and Advanced Energy Systems;

(F) an Assistant Administrator of the Federal Energy Administration;

(G) an Assistant Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency;

(H) an Assistant Secretary of Treasury; and

(I) an Assistant Secretary of Agriculture.

(2) The President shall designate the Assistant Administrator of the Energy Research and Development Administration for Solar, Geothermal, and Advanced Energy Systems to serve as Chairman of the Project.

(3) If the individual appointed under paragraph (1)(A) of this subsection is an officer or employee of the Federal Government, he shall receive no additional pay on account of his service as a member of the Project. If such individual is not an officer or employee of the Federal Government, he shall be entitled to receive the daily equivalent of the annual rate of basic pay in effect for level IV of the Executive Schedule (5 U.S.C. 5315) for each day (including travel-time) during which he is engaged in the actual performance of duties vested in the Project.