

(4) initiating Government and private studies and analyses, including those to be conducted by or under the auspices of the Council, designed to advance knowledge of critical or advanced materials issues and develop alternative proposals, including research and development, to resolve national critical materials problems.

(Pub. L. 98-373, title II, §209, July 31, 1984, 98 Stat. 1253.)

§ 1809. General authority of Council

The Council is authorized—

(1) to establish such internal rules and regulations as may be necessary for its operation;

(2) to enter into contracts and acquire materials and supplies necessary for its operation to such extent or in such amounts as are provided for in appropriation Acts;

(3) to publish, consistent with title 44, or arrange to publish critical materials information that it deems to be useful to the public and private industry to the extent that such publication is consistent with the national defense and economic interest;

(4) to utilize such services or personnel as may be provided to the Council on a nonreimbursable basis by any agency of the United States; and

(5) to exercise such authorities as may be necessary and incidental to carrying out its responsibilities and duties under this chapter.

(Pub. L. 98-373, title II, §210, July 31, 1984, 98 Stat. 1253; Pub. L. 100-418, title V, §5183, Aug. 23, 1988, 102 Stat. 1454.)

AMENDMENTS

1988—Par. (4). Pub. L. 100-418 substituted “nonreimbursable” for “reimbursable”.

§ 1810. Authorization of appropriations

There are hereby authorized to be appropriated to carry out the provisions of this chapter a sum not to exceed \$500,000 for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1985, and such sums as may be necessary thereafter: *Provided*, That the authority provided for in this chapter shall expire on September 30, 1992, unless otherwise authorized by Congress.

(Pub. L. 98-373, title II, §211, July 31, 1984, 98 Stat. 1254; Pub. L. 100-418, title V, §5184, Aug. 23, 1988, 102 Stat. 1454.)

AMENDMENTS

1988—Pub. L. 100-418 substituted “1992” for “1990”.

§ 1811. “Materials” defined

As used in this chapter, the term “materials” has the meaning given it by section 1601(b) of this title.

(Pub. L. 98-373, title II, §212, July 31, 1984, 98 Stat. 1254.)

CHAPTER 31—MARINE MINERAL RESOURCES RESEARCH

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§ 1901. Definitions

In this chapter:

(1) The term “contract” has the same meaning as “procurement contract” in section 6303 of title 31.

(2) The term “cooperative agreement” has the same meaning as in section 6305 of title 31.

(3) The term “eligible entity” means—

(A) a research or educational entity chartered or incorporated under Federal or State law;

(B) an individual who is a United States citizen; or

(C) a State or regional agency.

(4) The term “grant” has the same meaning as “grant agreement” in section 6304 of title 31.

(5) The term “in-kind contribution” means a noncash contribution provided by a non-Federal entity that directly benefits and is related to a specific project or program. An in-kind contribution may include real property, equipment, supplies, other expendable property, goods, and services.

(6) The term “marine mineral resource” means—

(A) sand and aggregates;

(B) placers;

(C) phosphates;

(D) manganese nodules;

(E) cobalt crusts;

(F) metal sulfides;

(G) for purposes of this section and sections 1902 through 1905 of this title only, methane hydrate; and

(H) other marine resources that are not—

(i) oil and gas;

(ii) fisheries; or

(iii) marine mammals.

(7) The term “methane hydrate” means—

(A) a methane clathrate that is in the form of a methane-water ice-like crystalline material and is stable and occurs naturally in deep-ocean and permafrost areas; and

(B) other natural gas hydrates found in association with deep-ocean and permafrost deposits of methane hydrate.

(8) The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.

(Pub. L. 91-631, title II, §201, as added Pub. L. 104-325, §2(3), Oct. 19, 1996, 110 Stat. 3994; amended Pub. L. 106-193, §4, May 2, 2000, 114 Stat. 236.)

AMENDMENTS

2000—Par. (6)(G), (H). Pub. L. 106-193, §4(1), added subpar. (G) and redesignated former subpar. (G) as (H).

Pars. (7), (8). Pub. L. 106-193, §4(2), (3), added par. (7) and redesignated former par. (7) as (8).

SHORT TITLE

Section 1 of Pub. L. 104-325 provided that: “This Act [enacting this chapter] may be cited as the ‘Marine Mineral Resources Research Act of 1996’.”

§ 1902. Research program**(a) In general**

The Secretary shall establish and carry out a program of research on marine mineral resources.

(b) Program goal

The goal of the program shall be to—

(1) promote research, identification, assessment, and exploration of marine mineral resources in an environmentally responsible manner;

(2) assist in developing domestic technologies required for efficient and environmentally sound development of marine mineral resources;

(3) coordinate and promote the use of technologies developed with Federal assistance, and the use of available Federal assets, for research, identification, assessment, exploration, and development of marine mineral resources; and

(4) encourage academia and industry to conduct basic and applied research, on a joint basis, through grants, cooperative agreements, or contracts with the Federal Government.

(c) Responsibilities of Secretary

In carrying out the program, the Secretary shall—

(1) promote and coordinate partnerships between industry, government, and academia to research, identify, assess, and explore marine mineral resources in an environmentally sound manner;

(2) undertake programs to develop the basic information necessary to the long-term national interest in marine mineral resources (including seabed mapping) and to ensure that data and information are accessible and widely disseminated as needed and appropriate;

(3) identify, and promote cooperation among agency programs that are developing, technologies developed by other Federal programs that may hold promise for facilitating undersea applications related to marine mineral resources, including technologies related to vessels and other platforms, underwater vehicles, survey and mapping systems, remote power sources, data collection and transmission systems, and various seabed research systems; and

(4) foster communication and coordination between Federal and State agencies, universities, and private entities concerning marine mineral research on seabeds of the continental shelf, ocean basins, and arctic and cold water areas.

In carrying out these responsibilities, the Secretary shall ensure the participation of non-Fed-

eral users of technologies and data related to marine mineral resources in planning and priority setting.

(Pub. L. 91-631, title II, §202, as added Pub. L. 104-325, §2(3), Oct. 19, 1996, 110 Stat. 3995.)

METHANE HYDRATE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Pub. L. 106-193, May 2, 2000, 114 Stat. 234, provided that:

“SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

“This Act may be cited as the ‘Methane Hydrate Research and Development Act of 2000’.

“SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

“In this Act:

“(1) CONTRACT.—The term ‘contract’ means a procurement contract within the meaning of section 6303 of title 31, United States Code.

“(2) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT.—The term ‘cooperative agreement’ means a cooperative agreement within the meaning of section 6305 of title 31, United States Code.

“(3) DIRECTOR.—The term ‘Director’ means the Director of the National Science Foundation.

“(4) GRANT.—The term ‘grant’ means a grant awarded under a grant agreement, within the meaning of section 6304 of title 31, United States Code.

“(5) INDUSTRIAL ENTERPRISE.—The term ‘industrial enterprise’ means a private, nongovernmental enterprise that has an expertise or capability that relates to methane hydrate research and development.

“(6) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The term ‘institution of higher education’ means an institution of higher education, within the meaning of section 102(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002(a)).

“(7) SECRETARY.—The term ‘Secretary’ means the Secretary of Energy, acting through the Assistant Secretary for Fossil Energy.

“(8) SECRETARY OF COMMERCE.—The term ‘Secretary of Commerce’ means the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

“(9) SECRETARY OF DEFENSE.—The term ‘Secretary of Defense’ means the Secretary of Defense, acting through the Secretary of the Navy.

“(10) SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR.—The term ‘Secretary of the Interior’ means the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Director of the United States Geological Survey and the Director of the Minerals Management Service.

“SEC. 3. METHANE HYDRATE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—

“(1) COMMENCEMENT OF PROGRAM.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act [May 2, 2000], the Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Commerce, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Director, shall commence a program of methane hydrate research and development in accordance with this section.

“(2) DESIGNATIONS.—The Secretary, the Secretary of Commerce, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Director shall designate individuals to carry out this section.

“(3) COORDINATION.—The individual designated by the Secretary shall coordinate all activities within the Department of Energy relating to methane hydrate research and development.

“(4) MEETINGS.—The individuals designated under paragraph (2) shall meet not later than 270 days after the date of the enactment of this Act and not less frequently than every 120 days thereafter to—

“(A) review the progress of the program under paragraph (1); and

“(B) make recommendations on future activities to occur subsequent to the meeting.

“(b) GRANTS, CONTRACTS, COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS, INTERAGENCY FUNDS TRANSFER AGREEMENTS, AND FIELD WORK PROPOSALS.—