

component of fuel containing at least 20 percent biodiesel by volume purchased after the date of the enactment of this section, for use by the fleet or covered person in vehicles owned or operated by the fleet or covered person that weigh more than 8,500 pounds gross vehicle weight rating.

(2) Exceptions

No credits shall be allocated under paragraph (1) for a purchase of biodiesel—

- (A) for use in alternative fueled vehicles; or
- (B) that is required by Federal or State law.

(3) Authority to modify percentage

The Secretary may, by rule, lower the 20 percent biodiesel volume requirement in paragraph (1) for reasons related to cold start, safety, or vehicle function considerations.

(4) Documentation

A fleet or covered person seeking a credit under this section shall provide written documentation to the Secretary supporting the allocation of a credit to such fleet or covered person under paragraph (1).

(b) Use of credits

(1) In general

At the request of a fleet or covered person allocated a credit under subsection (a) of this section, the Secretary shall, for the year in which the purchase of a qualifying volume is made, treat that purchase as the acquisition of one alternative fueled vehicle the fleet or covered person is required to acquire under this subchapter, subchapter II of this chapter, or subchapter III of this chapter.

(2) Limitation

Credits allocated under subsection (a) of this section may not be used to satisfy more than 50 percent of the alternative fueled vehicle requirements of a fleet or covered person under this subchapter, subchapter II of this chapter, and subchapter III of this chapter. This paragraph shall not apply to a fleet or covered person that is a biodiesel alternative fuel provider described in section 13251(a)(2)(A) of this title.

(c) Credit not a section 13258 credit

A credit under this section shall not be considered a credit under section 13258 of this title.

(d) Issuance of rule

The Secretary shall, before January 1, 1999, issue a rule establishing procedures for the implementation of this section.

(e) Collection of data

The Secretary shall collect such data as are required to make a determination described in subsection (f)(2)(B) of this section.

(f) Definitions

For purposes of this section—

- (1) the term “biodiesel”—
 - (A) means a diesel fuel substitute produced from nonpetroleum renewable resources that meets the registration requirements for fuels and fuel additives established by the

Environmental Protection Agency under section 7545 of this title;

(B) includes biodiesel derived from—

- (i) animal wastes, including poultry fats and poultry wastes, and other waste materials; or
- (ii) municipal solid waste and sludges and oils derived from wastewater and the treatment of wastewater; and

(2) the term “qualifying volume” means—

- (A) 450 gallons; or
- (B) if the Secretary determines by rule that the average annual alternative fuel use in light duty vehicles by fleets and covered persons exceeds 450 gallons or gallon equivalents, the amount of such average annual alternative fuel use.

(Pub. L. 102-486, title III, §312, as added Pub. L. 105-277, div. A, §101(a) [title XII, §1201(a)], Oct. 21, 1998, 112 Stat. 2681, 2681-48; Pub. L. 105-388, §7(a), Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3480; Pub. L. 109-58, title XV, §1515, Aug. 8, 2005, 119 Stat. 1091.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The date of the enactment of this section, referred to in subsec. (a)(1), probably means October 21, 1998, the date of the enactment of this section by Pub. L. 105-277, rather than Nov. 13, 1998, the date of the enactment of this section by Pub. L. 105-388.

This subchapter, referred to in subsec. (b), was in the original “this title”, meaning title III of Pub. L. 102-486, Oct. 24, 1992, 106 Stat. 2866, which enacted this subchapter, amended section 6374 of this title, and repealed provisions set out as a note under section 6374 of this title. For complete classification of title III to the Code, see Tables.

Subchapter II of this chapter, referred to in subsec. (b), was in the original “title IV”, meaning title IV of Pub. L. 102-486, Oct. 24, 1992, 106 Stat. 2875, which enacted subchapter II (§13231 et seq.) of this chapter, amended sections 6374a and 6374b and former section 6374c of this title and sections 717, 717a, 2001, 2002, 2006, and 2013 of Title 15, Commerce and Trade, enacted provisions set out as notes under former section 79b and section 717 of Title 15, and repealed provisions set out as a note under section 717c of Title 15. For complete classification of title IV to the Code, see Tables.

CODIFICATION

Pub. L. 105-277 and Pub. L. 105-388 enacted identical sections.

AMENDMENTS

2005—Subsec. (f)(1). Pub. L. 109-58 inserted dash after “biodiesel”, designated remainder of existing provisions as subpar. (A), and added subpar. (B).

SUBCHAPTER II—ALTERNATIVE FUELS—
NON-FEDERAL PROGRAMS

§ 13231. Public information program

The Secretary, in consultation with appropriate Federal agencies and individuals and organizations with practical experience in the production and use of alternative fuels and alternative fueled vehicles, shall, for the purposes of promoting the use of alternative fuels and alternative fueled vehicles, establish a public information program on the benefits and costs of the use of alternative fuels in motor vehicles. Within 18 months after October 24, 1992, the Secretary shall produce and make available an information package for consumers to assist them

in choosing among alternative fuels and alternative fueled vehicles. Such information package shall provide relevant and objective information on motor vehicle characteristics and fuel characteristics as compared to gasoline, on a life cycle basis, including environmental performance, energy efficiency, domestic content, cost, maintenance requirements, reliability, and safety. Such information package shall also include information with respect to the conversion of conventional motor vehicles to alternative fueled vehicles. The Secretary shall include such other information as the Secretary determines is reasonable and necessary to help promote the use of alternative fuels in motor vehicles. Such information package shall be updated annually to reflect the most recent available information.

(Pub. L. 102-486, title IV, §405, Oct. 24, 1992, 106 Stat. 2880.)

§ 13232. Labeling requirements

(a) Establishment of requirements

The Federal Trade Commission, in consultation with the Secretary, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Secretary of Transportation, shall, within 18 months after October 24, 1992, issue a notice of proposed rulemaking for a rule to establish uniform labeling requirements, to the greatest extent practicable, for alternative fuels and alternative fueled vehicles, including requirements for appropriate information with respect to costs and benefits, so as to reasonably enable the consumer to make choices and comparisons. Required labeling under the rule shall be simple and, where appropriate, consolidated with other labels providing information to the consumer. In formulating the rule, the Federal Trade Commission shall give consideration to the problems associated with developing and publishing useful and timely cost and benefit information, taking into account lead time, costs, the frequency of changes in costs and benefits that may occur, and other relevant factors. The Commission shall obtain the views of affected industries, consumer organizations, Federal and State agencies, and others in formulating the rule. A final rule shall be issued within 1 year after the notice of proposed rulemaking is issued. Such rule shall be updated periodically to reflect the most recent available information.

(b) Technical assistance and coordination

The Secretary shall provide technical assistance to the Federal Trade Commission in developing labeling requirements under subsection (a) of this section. The Secretary shall coordinate activities under this section with activities under section 13231 of this title.

(Pub. L. 102-486, title IV, §406, Oct. 24, 1992, 106 Stat. 2880.)

§ 13233. Data acquisition program

(a) Not later than one year after October 24, 1992, the Secretary, through the Energy Information Administration, and in cooperation with appropriate State, regional, and local authorities, shall establish a data collection program to

be conducted in at least 5 geographically and climatically diverse regions of the United States for the purpose of collecting data which would be useful to persons seeking to manufacture, convert, sell, own, or operate alternative fueled vehicles or alternative fueling facilities. Such data shall include—

(1) identification of the number and types of motor vehicle trips made daily and miles driven per trip, including commuting, business, and recreational trips;

(2) the projections of the Secretary as to the most likely combination of alternative fueled vehicle use and other forms of transit, including rail and other forms of mass transit;

(3) cost, performance, environmental, energy, and safety data on alternative fuels and alternative fueled vehicles; and

(4) other appropriate demographic information and consumer preferences.

(b) The Secretary shall consult with interested parties, including other appropriate Federal agencies, manufacturers, public utilities, owners and operators of fleets of light duty motor vehicles, and State or local governmental entities, to determine the types of data to be collected and analyzed under subsection (a) of this section.

(Pub. L. 102-486, title IV, §407, Oct. 24, 1992, 106 Stat. 2881.)

§ 13234. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission authority to approve recovery of certain expenses in advance

(a) Natural gas motor vehicles

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission may, under section 717c of title 15, allow recovery of expenses in advance by natural-gas companies for research, development, and demonstration activities by the Gas Research Institute for projects on the use of natural gas, including fuels derived from natural gas, for transportation, and projects on the use of natural gas to control pollutants and to control emissions from the combustion of other fuels, if the Commission finds that the benefits, including environmental benefits, to existing and future ratepayers resulting from such activities exceed all direct costs to existing and future ratepayers. To the maximum extent practicable, through the establishment of cofunding requirements applicable to such projects, the Commission shall ensure that the costs of such activities shall be provided in part, through contributions of cash, personnel, services, equipment, and other resources, by sources other than the recovery of expenses pursuant to this section.

(b) Electric motor vehicles

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission may, under section 824d of title 16, allow recovery of expenses in advance by electric utilities for research, development, and demonstration activities by the Electric Power Research Institute for projects on electric motor vehicles, if the Commission finds that the benefits, including environmental benefits, to existing and future ratepayers resulting from such activities exceed all direct costs to existing and future ratepayers. To the maximum extent practicable,