

cating oil, liquid petroleum gas, or other petroleum distillate that is produced through the refining or processing of crude oil or an oil derived from tar sands, shale, or coal.

(4) Refinery

The term “refinery” means a facility used in the production of a refined petroleum product through distillation, cracking, or any other process.

(b) Review and analysis of available information

The Administrator shall, on an ongoing basis—

(1) review information on refinery outages that is available from commercial reporting services;

(2) analyze that information to determine whether the scheduling of a refinery outage may nationally or regionally substantially affect the price or supply of any refined petroleum product by—

(A) decreasing the production of the refined petroleum product; and

(B) causing or contributing to a retail or wholesale supply shortage or disruption;

(3) not less frequently than twice each year, submit to the Secretary a report describing the results of the review and analysis under paragraphs (1) and (2); and

(4) specifically alert the Secretary of any refinery outage that the Administrator determines may nationally or regionally substantially affect the price or supply of a refined petroleum product.

(c) Action by Secretary

On a determination by the Secretary, based on a report or alert under paragraph (3) or (4) of subsection (b), that a refinery outage may affect the price or supply of a refined petroleum product, the Secretary shall make available to refinery operators information on planned refinery outages to encourage reductions of the quantity of refinery capacity that is out of service at any time.

(d) Limitation

Nothing in this section shall alter any existing legal obligation or responsibility of a refinery operator, or create any legal right of action, nor shall this section authorize the Secretary—

(1) to prohibit a refinery operator from conducting a planned refinery outage; or

(2) to require a refinery operator to continue to operate a refinery.

(Pub. L. 110–140, title VIII, § 804, Dec. 19, 2007, 121 Stat. 1720.)

§ 17284. Assessment of resources

(a) 5-year plan

(1) Establishment

The Administrator of the Energy Information Administration (referred to in this section as the “Administrator”) shall establish a 5-year plan to enhance the quality and scope of the data collection necessary to ensure the scope, accuracy, and timeliness of the information needed for efficient functioning of energy markets and related financial operations.

(2) Requirement

In establishing the plan under paragraph (1), the Administrator shall pay particular attention to—

(A) data series terminated because of budget constraints;

(B) data on demand response;

(C) timely data series of State-level information;

(D) improvements in the area of oil and gas data;

(E) improvements in data on solid byproducts from coal-based energy-producing facilities; and

(F) the ability to meet applicable deadlines under Federal law (including regulations) to provide data required by Congress.

(b) Submission to Congress

The Administrator shall submit to Congress the plan established under subsection (a), including a description of any improvements needed to enhance the ability of the Administrator to collect and process energy information in a manner consistent with the needs of energy markets.

(c) Guidelines

(1) In general

The Administrator shall—

(A) establish guidelines to ensure the quality, comparability, and scope of State energy data, including data on energy production and consumption by product and sector and renewable and alternative sources, required to provide a comprehensive, accurate energy profile at the State level;

(B) share company-level data collected at the State level with each State involved, in a manner consistent with the legal authorities, confidentiality protections, and stated uses in effect at the time the data were collected, subject to the condition that the State shall agree to reasonable requirements for use of the data, as the Administrator may require;

(C) assess any existing gaps in data obtained and compiled by the Energy Information Administration; and

(D) evaluate the most cost-effective ways to address any data quality and quantity issues in conjunction with State officials.

(2) Consultation

The Administrator shall consult with State officials and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission on a regular basis in—

(A) establishing guidelines and determining the scope of State-level data under paragraph (1); and

(B) exploring ways to address data needs and serve data uses.

(d) Assessment of State data needs

Not later than 1 year after December 19, 2007, the Administrator shall submit to Congress an assessment of State-level data needs, including a plan to address the needs.

(e) Authorization of appropriations

In addition to any other amounts made available to the Administrator, there are authorized

to be appropriated to the Administrator to carry out this section—

- (1) \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 2008;
- (2) \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 2009;
- (3) \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 2010;
- (4) \$15,000,000 for fiscal year 2011;
- (5) \$20,000,000 for fiscal year 2012; and
- (6) such sums as are necessary for subsequent fiscal years.

(Pub. L. 110–140, title VIII, § 805, Dec. 19, 2007, 121 Stat. 1721.)

§ 17285. Sense of Congress relating to the use of renewable resources to generate energy

(a) Findings

Congress finds that—

- (1) the United States has a quantity of renewable energy resources that is sufficient to supply a significant portion of the energy needs of the United States;
- (2) the agricultural, forestry, and working land of the United States can help ensure a sustainable domestic energy system;
- (3) accelerated development and use of renewable energy technologies provide numerous benefits to the United States, including improved national security, improved balance of payments, healthier rural economies, improved environmental quality, and abundant, reliable, and affordable energy for all citizens of the United States;
- (4) the production of transportation fuels from renewable energy would help the United States meet rapidly growing domestic and global energy demands, reduce the dependence of the United States on energy imported from volatile regions of the world that are politically unstable, stabilize the cost and availability of energy, and safeguard the economy and security of the United States;
- (5) increased energy production from domestic renewable resources would attract substantial new investments in energy infrastructure, create economic growth, develop new jobs for the citizens of the United States, and increase the income for farm, ranch, and forestry jobs in the rural regions of the United States;
- (6) increased use of renewable energy is practical and can be cost effective with the implementation of supportive policies and proper incentives to stimulate markets and infrastructure; and
- (7) public policies aimed at enhancing renewable energy production and accelerating technological improvements will further reduce energy costs over time and increase market demand.

(b) Sense of Congress

It is the sense of Congress that it is the goal of the United States that, not later than January 1, 2025, the agricultural, forestry, and working land of the United States should—

- (1) provide from renewable resources not less than 25 percent of the total energy consumed in the United States; and
- (2) continue to produce safe, abundant, and affordable food, feed, and fiber.

(Pub. L. 110–140, title VIII, § 806, Dec. 19, 2007, 121 Stat. 1722.)

§ 17286. Geothermal assessment, exploration information, and priority activities

(a) In general

Not later than January 1, 2012, the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Director of the United States Geological Survey, shall—

- (1) complete a comprehensive nationwide geothermal resource assessment that examines the full range of geothermal resources in the United States; and
- (2) submit to the the¹ Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report describing the results of the assessment.

(b) Periodic updates

At least once every 10 years, the Secretary shall update the national assessment required under this section to support public and private sector decisionmaking.

(c) Authorization of appropriations

There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of the Interior to carry out this section—

- (1) \$15,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012; and
- (2) such sums as are necessary for each of fiscal years 2013 through 2022.

(Pub. L. 110–140, title VIII, § 807, Dec. 19, 2007, 121 Stat. 1723.)

PART B—PROHIBITIONS ON MARKET
MANIPULATION AND FALSE INFORMATION

§ 17301. Prohibition on market manipulation

It is unlawful for any person, directly or indirectly, to use or employ, in connection with the purchase or sale of crude oil¹ gasoline or petroleum distillates at wholesale, any manipulative or deceptive device or contrivance, in contravention of such rules and regulations as the Federal Trade Commission may prescribe as necessary or appropriate in the public interest or for the protection of United States citizens.

(Pub. L. 110–140, title VIII, § 811, Dec. 19, 2007, 121 Stat. 1723.)

§ 17302. Prohibition on false information

It is unlawful for any person to report information related to the wholesale price of crude oil¹ gasoline or petroleum distillates to a Federal department or agency if—

- (1) the person knew, or reasonably should have known, the information to be false or misleading;
- (2) the information was required by law to be reported; and
- (3) the person intended the false or misleading data to affect data compiled by the department or agency for statistical or analytical purposes with respect to the market for crude oil, gasoline, or petroleum distillates.

(Pub. L. 110–140, title VIII, § 812, Dec. 19, 2007, 121 Stat. 1723.)

¹ So in original.

¹ So in original. A comma probably should appear.

¹ So in original. A comma probably should appear.