

**§ 5821. Annual authorization Acts****(a) General requirements; applicability to appropriations**

All appropriations made to the Energy Research and Development Administration or the Administrator shall, except as otherwise provided by law, be subject to annual authorization in accordance with section 2017 of this title, section 5915 of this title, and section 5875 of this title. The provisions of this section shall apply with respect to appropriations made pursuant to the Act providing such authorization (hereinafter in this section referred to as “annual authorization Acts”).

**(b) Requirements and limitations respecting funds appropriated for operating expenses**

(1) Funds appropriated pursuant to an annual authorization Act for “Operating expenses” may be used for—

(A) the construction or acquisition of any facilities, or major items of equipment, which may be required at locations other than installations of the Administration, for the performance of research, development, and demonstration activities, and

(B) grants to any organization for purchase or construction of research facilities.

No such funds shall be used under this subsection for the acquisition of land. Fee title to all such facilities and items of equipment shall be vested in the United States, unless the Administrator or his designee determines in writing that the research, development, and demonstration authorized by such Act would best be implemented by permitting fee title or any other property interest to be vested in an entity other than the United States; but before approving the vesting of such title or interest in such entity, the Administrator shall (i) transmit such determination, together with all pertinent data, to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and (ii) wait a period of thirty calendar days (not including any day in which either House of Congress is not in session because of adjournment of more than three calendar days to a day certain), unless prior to the expiration of such period each such committee has transmitted to the Administrator written notice to the effect that such committee has no objection to the proposed action.

(2) No funds shall be used under paragraph (1) for any facility or major item of equipment, including collateral equipment, if the estimated cost to the Federal Government exceeds \$5,000,000 in the case of such a facility or \$2,000,000 in the case of such an item of equipment, unless such facility or item has been previously authorized by the appropriate committees of the House of Representatives and the Senate, or the Administrator—

(A) transmit to the appropriate committees of the House of Representatives and the Senate a report on such facility or item showing its nature, purpose, and estimated cost, and

(B) wait a period of thirty calendar days (not including any day in which either House of Congress is not in session because of ad-

journalment of more than three calendar days to a day certain), unless prior to the expiration of such period each such committee has transmitted to the Administrator written notice to the effect that such committee has no objection to the proposed action.

**(c) Additional requirements and limitations respecting funds appropriated for operating expenses**

(1) Not to exceed 1 per centum of all funds appropriated pursuant to any annual authorization Act for “Operating expenses” may be used by the Administrator to construct, expand, or modify laboratories and other facilities, including the acquisition of land, at any location under the control of the Administrator, if the Administrator determines that (A) such action would be necessary because of changes in the national programs authorized to be funded by such Act or because of new scientific or engineering developments, and (B) deferral of such action until the enactment of the next authorization Act would be inconsistent with the policies established by Congress for the Administration.

(2) No funds may be obligated for expenditure or expended under paragraph (1) for activities described in such paragraph unless—

(A) a period of thirty calendar days (not including any day in which either House of Congress is not in session because of adjournment of more than three calendar days to a day certain) has passed after the Administrator has transmitted to the appropriate committees of the House of Representatives and the Senate a written report containing a full and complete statement concerning (i) the nature of the construction, expansion, or modification involved, (ii) the cost thereof, including the cost of any real estate action pertaining thereto, and (iii) the reason why such construction, expansion, or modification is necessary and in the national interest, or

(B) each such committee before the expiration of such period has transmitted to the Administrator a written notice to the effect that such committee has no objection to the proposed action;

except that this paragraph shall not apply to any project the estimated total cost of which does not exceed \$50,000.

**(d) Requirements respecting amounts appropriated in annual appropriation Act for use in programs in excess of amount actually authorized for use in program not presented to, or requested of Congress; reduction in aggregate amount available for categories of coal, etc., from sums appropriated**

(1) Except as otherwise provided in the authorization Act involved—

(A) no amount appropriated pursuant to any annual authorization Act may be used for any program in excess of the amount actually authorized for that particular program by such Act, and

(B) no amount appropriated pursuant to any annual authorization Act may be used for any program which has not been presented to, or requested of the Congress,

unless (i) a period of thirty calendar days (not including any day in which either House of Con-

gress is not in session because of adjournment of more than three calendar days to a day certain) has passed after the receipt by the appropriate committees of the House of Representatives and the Senate of notice given by the Administrator containing a full and complete statement of the action proposed to be taken and the facts and circumstances relied upon in support of such proposed action, or (ii) each such committee before the expiration of such period has transmitted to the Administrator written notice to the effect that such committee has no objection to the proposed action.

(2) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section or the authorization Act involved, the aggregate amount available for use within the categories of coal, petroleum and natural gas, oil shale, solar, geothermal, nuclear energy (non-weapons), environment and safety, and conservation from sums appropriated pursuant to an annual authorization Act may not, as a result of reprogramming, be decreased by more than 10 per centum of the total of the sums appropriated pursuant to such Act for those categories.

**(e) Requirements and limitations respecting merger of amounts appropriated for operating expenses or for plant and capital equipment**

Subject to the applicable requirements and limitations of this section and the authorization Act involved, when so specified in an appropriation Act, amounts appropriated pursuant to any annual authorization Act for "Operating expenses" or for "Plant and capital equipment" may be merged with any other amounts appropriated for like purposes pursuant to any other Act authorizing appropriations for the Administration: *Provided*, That no such amounts appropriated for "Plant and capital equipment" may be merged with amounts appropriated for "Operating expenses".

**(f) Availability until expended of amounts appropriated for operating expenses or for plant and capital equipment**

When so specified in an appropriation Act, amounts appropriated pursuant to any annual authorization Act for "Operating expenses" or for "Plant and capital equipment" may remain available until expended.

**(g) Performance of construction design services by Administrator**

The Administrator is authorized to perform construction design services for any administration construction project whenever (1) such construction project has been included in a proposed authorization bill transmitted to the Congress by the Administration, and (2) the Administration determines that the project is of such urgency in order to meet the needs of national defense or protection of life and property or health and safety that construction of the project should be initiated promptly upon enactment of legislation appropriating funds for its construction.

**(h) Retention and use for operating expenses, and availability until expended, of moneys received by Administration; exceptions**

When so specified in appropriation Acts, any moneys received by the Administration may be

retained and used for operating expenses, and may remain available until expended, notwithstanding the provisions of section 3302(b) of title 31; except that—

(1) this subsection shall not apply with respect to sums received from disposal of property under the Atomic Energy Community Act of 1955 [42 U.S.C. 2301 et seq.] or the Strategic and Critical Materials Stockpiling Act, as amended [50 U.S.C. 98 et seq.], or with respect to fees received for tests or investigations under the Act of May 16, 1910, as amended (30 U.S.C. 7); and

(2) revenues received by the Administration from the enrichment of uranium shall (when so specified) be retained and used for the specific purpose of offsetting costs incurred by the Administration in providing uranium enrichment service activities.

**(i) Requirements respecting transfers of sums appropriated for operating expenses to other Government agencies; merger of transferred sums**

When so specified in an appropriation Act, transfers of sums from the "Operating expenses" appropriation made pursuant to an annual authorization Act may be made to other agencies of the Government for the performance of the work for which the appropriation is made, and in such cases the sums so transferred may be merged with the appropriations to which they are transferred.

(Pub. L. 93-438, title I, §111, as added Pub. L. 95-238, title II, §201, Feb. 25, 1978, 92 Stat. 56; amended Pub. L. 103-437, §15(c)(7), Nov. 2, 1994, 108 Stat. 4592.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Atomic Energy Community Act of 1955, referred to in subsec. (h)(1), is act Aug. 4, 1955, ch. 543, 69 Stat. 472, as amended, which is classified principally to chapter 24 (§2301 et seq.) of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 2301 of this title and Tables.

The Strategic and Critical Materials Stockpiling Act, as amended, referred to in subsec. (h)(1), is act June 7, 1939, ch. 190, as revised generally by Pub. L. 96-41, §2, July 30, 1979, 93 Stat. 319, which is classified generally to subchapter III (§98 et seq.) of chapter 5 of Title 50, War and National Defense. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see section 98 of Title 50 and Tables.

Act of May 16, 1910, as amended, referred to in subsec. (h)(1), is act May 16, 1910, ch. 240, 36 Stat. 369, as amended, which enacted sections 1, 3, and 5 to 7 of Title 30, Mineral Lands and Mining. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Tables.

CODIFICATION

In subsec. (h), "section 3302(b) of title 31" substituted for "section 3617 of the Revised Statutes (31 U.S.C. 484)" on authority of Pub. L. 97-258, §4(b), Sept. 13, 1982, 96 Stat. 1067, the first section of which enacted Title 31, Money and Finance.

PRIOR PROVISIONS

Provisions similar to those in subsec. (g) of this section were contained in the following appropriation authorization acts, formerly classified to section 2017a-1 of this title.

Pub. L. 95-39, title III, §304, June 3, 1977, 91 Stat. 189.  
Pub. L. 94-187, title III, §301, Dec. 31, 1975, 89 Stat. 1073.

Pub. L. 93-276, title I, §103, May 10, 1974, 88 Stat. 118.  
 Pub. L. 93-60, §103, July 6, 1973, 87 Stat. 144.  
 Pub. L. 92-314, title I, §103, June 16, 1972, 86 Stat. 225.  
 Pub. L. 92-84, title I, §103, Aug. 11, 1971, 85 Stat. 306.  
 Pub. L. 91-273, §103, June 2, 1970, 84 Stat. 300.  
 Pub. L. 91-44, §103, July 11, 1969, 83 Stat. 47.  
 Pub. L. 90-289, §103, Apr. 19, 1968, 82 Stat. 97.  
 Pub. L. 90-56, §103, July 26, 1967, 81 Stat. 125.  
 Pub. L. 89-428, §103, May 21, 1966, 80 Stat. 163.  
 Pub. L. 89-32, §103, June 2, 1965, 79 Stat. 122.  
 Pub. L. 88-332, §104, June 30, 1964, 78 Stat. 229.

#### AMENDMENTS

1994—Subsec. (b)(1). Pub. L. 103-437 substituted “Committee on Science, Space, and Technology” for “Committee on Science and Technology”.

NONAPPLICABILITY OF TITLE II OF PUB. L. 95-238 TO ANY AUTHORIZATION OR APPROPRIATION FOR MILITARY APPLICATION OF NUCLEAR ENERGY, ETC.; DEFINITIONS

Section 209 of title II of Pub. L. 95-238 provided that: “(a) Nothing in this title [enacting this section and sections 5556a and 5919 of this title, amending sections 2391, 2394, 5905, 5906, and 5914 of this title, and enacting provisions set out as notes under section 7256 of this title and section 2429 of Title 22, Foreign Relations and Intercourse] shall apply with respect to any authorization or appropriation for any military application of nuclear energy, for research and development in support of the Armed Forces, or for the common defense and security of the United States.

“(b)(1) The term ‘military application’ means any activity authorized or permitted by chapter 9 of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (Public Law 83-703, as amended; 42 U.S.C. 2121, 2122).

“(2) The term ‘research and development’ as used in this section, is defined by section 11 x., of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (Public Law 83-703, as amended; 42 U.S.C. 2014).

“(3) The term ‘common defense and security’ means the common defense and security of the United States as used in the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, as amended (Public Law 83-703, as amended) [section 2011 et seq. of this title].”

#### SUBCHAPTER II—NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION; NUCLEAR WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTION

##### § 5841. Establishment and transfers

###### (a) Composition; Chairman; Acting Chairman; quorum; official spokesman; seal; functions of Chairman and Commission

(1) There is established an independent regulatory commission to be known as the Nuclear Regulatory Commission which shall be composed of five members, each of whom shall be a citizen of the United States. The President shall designate one member of the Commission as Chairman thereof to serve as such during the pleasure of the President. The Chairman may from time to time designate any other member of the Commission as Acting Chairman to act in the place and stead of the Chairman during his absence. The Chairman (or the Acting Chairman in the absence of the Chairman) shall preside at all meetings of the Commission and a quorum for the transaction of business shall consist of at least three members present. Each member of the Commission, including the Chairman, shall have equal responsibility and authority in all decisions and actions of the Commission, shall have full access to all information relating to the performance of his duties or responsibilities,

and shall have one vote. Action of the Commission shall be determined by a majority vote of the members present. The Chairman (or Acting Chairman in the absence of the Chairman) shall be the official spokesman of the Commission in its relations with the Congress, Government agencies, persons, or the public, and, on behalf of the Commission, shall see to the faithful execution of the policies and decisions of the Commission, and shall report thereon to the Commission from time to time or as the Commission may direct. The Commission shall have an official seal which shall be judicially noticed.

(2) The Chairman of the Commission shall be the principal executive officer of the Commission, and he shall exercise all of the executive and administrative functions of the Commission, including functions of the Commission with respect to (a) the appointment and supervision of personnel employed under the Commission (other than personnel employed regularly and full time in the immediate offices of commissioners other than the Chairman, and except as otherwise provided in this chapter), (b) the distribution of business among such personnel and among administrative units of the Commission, and (c) the use and expenditure of funds.

(3) In carrying out any of his functions under the provisions of this section the Chairman shall be governed by general policies of the Commission and by such regulatory decisions, findings, and determinations as the Commission may by law be authorized to make.

(4) The appointment by the Chairman of the heads of major administrative units under the Commission shall be subject to the approval of the Commission.

(5) There are hereby reserved to the Commission its functions with respect to revising budget estimates and with respect to determining upon the distribution of appropriated funds according to major programs and purposes.

###### (b) Appointment of members

(1) Members of the Commission shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

(2) Appointments of members pursuant to this subsection shall be made in such a manner that not more than three members of the Commission shall be members of the same political party.

###### (c) Term of office

Each member shall serve for a term of five years, each such term to commence on July 1, except that of the five members first appointed to the Commission, one shall serve for one year, one for two years, one for three years, one for four years, and one for five years, to be designated by the President at the time of appointment; and except that any member appointed to fill a vacancy occurring prior to the expiration of the term for which his predecessor was appointed, shall be appointed for the remainder of such term. For the purpose of determining the expiration date of the terms of office of the five members first appointed to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, each such term shall be deemed to have begun July 1, 1975.

###### (d) Submission of appointments to Senate

Such initial appointments shall be submitted to the Senate within sixty days of October 11,