

SUBCHAPTER IV—GENERAL PROVISIONS

PART A—ENERGY DATA BASE AND ENERGY INFORMATION

§ 6381. Verification examinations**(a) Authority of Comptroller General**

The Comptroller General may conduct verification examinations with respect to the books, records, papers, or other documents of—

(1) any person who is required to submit energy information to the Secretary, the Department of the Interior, or the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission pursuant to any rule, regulation, order, or other legal process of such Secretary, Department or Commission;

(2) any person who is engaged in the production, processing, refining, transportation by pipeline, or distribution (at other than the retail level) of energy resources—

(A) if such person has furnished, directly or indirectly, energy information (without regard to whether such information was furnished pursuant to legal requirements) to any Federal agency (other than the Internal Revenue Service), and

(B) if the Comptroller General of the United States determines that such information has been or is being used or taken into consideration, in whole or in part, by a Federal agency in carrying out responsibilities committed to such agency; or

(3) any vertically integrated petroleum company with respect to financial information of such company related to energy resource exploration, development, and production and the transportation, refining and marketing of energy resources and energy products.

(b) Request for examination

The Comptroller General shall conduct verification examinations of any person or company described in subsection (a) of this section, if requested to do so by any duly established committee of the Congress having legislative or oversight responsibilities under the rules of the House of Representatives or of the Senate, with respect to energy matters or any of the laws administered by the Department of the Interior (or the Secretary thereof), the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, or the Secretary.

(c) Definitions

For the purposes of this subchapter—

(1) The term “verification examination” means an examination of such books, records, papers, or other documents of a person or company as the Comptroller General determines necessary and appropriate to assess the accuracy, reliability, and adequacy of the energy information, or financial information, referred to in subsection (a) of this section.

(2) The term “energy information” has the same meaning as such term has in section 796(e)(1) of title 15.

(3) The term “person” has the same meaning as such term has in section 796(e)(2) of title 15.

(4) The term “vertically integrated petroleum company” means any person which itself, or through a person which is controlled by, controls, or is under common control with

such person, is engaged in the production, refining, and marketing of petroleum products.

(Pub. L. 94-163, title V, § 501, Dec. 22, 1975, 89 Stat. 956; Pub. L. 95-91, title III, § 301, title IV, § 402, title VII, §§ 703, 707, Aug. 4, 1977, 91 Stat. 577, 583, 606, 607; Pub. L. 95-619, title VI, § 691(b)(2), Nov. 9, 1978, 92 Stat. 3288.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This subchapter, referred to in subsec. (c), was in the original “this title”, meaning title V of Pub. L. 94-163, Dec. 22, 1975, 89 Stat. 956, which is classified principally to this subchapter. For complete classification of title V to the Code, see Tables.

AMENDMENTS

1978—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 95-619 purported to substitute “Secretary” for “Administrator”, meaning Administrator of the Federal Energy Administration. See Transfer of Functions note below.

TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

“Secretary, the Department of the Interior, or the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission” and “Secretary” substituted for “Federal Energy Administration, the Department of the Interior, or the Federal Power Commission” and “Administration”, respectively, in subsec. (a)(1), and “Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, or the Secretary” substituted for “Federal Power Commission, or the Federal Energy Administration (or the Administrator)” in subsec. (b) pursuant to sections 301, 402, 703, and 707 of Pub. L. 95-91, which are classified to sections 7151, 7172, 7293, and 7297 of this title and which terminated Federal Energy Administration and transferred its functions and functions of Administrator thereof (with certain exceptions) to Secretary of Energy and terminated Federal Power Commission and transferred its functions to Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and Secretary of Energy.

§ 6382. Powers and duties of Comptroller General**(a) Subpenas; discovery and inspection; oaths; search**

For the purpose of carrying out his authority under section 6381 of this title—

(1) the Comptroller General may—

(A) sign and issue subpoenas for the attendance and testimony of witnesses and the production of books, records, papers, and other documents;

(B) require any person, by general or special order, to submit answers in writing to interrogatories, to submit books, records, papers, or other documents, or to submit any other information or reports, and such answers or other submissions shall be made within such reasonable period, and under oath or otherwise, as the Comptroller General may determine; and

(C) administer oaths.

(2) the Comptroller General, or any officer or employee duly designated by the Comptroller General, upon presenting appropriate credentials and a written notice from the Comptroller General to the owner, operator, or agent in charge, may—

(A) enter, at reasonable times, any business premise or facility; and

(B) inspect, at reasonable times and in a reasonable manner, any such premise or facility, inventory and sample any stock of en-