(B) much rural and agricultural driving of automobiles, tractors, and trucks is within the capability of such vehicles;

(C) electric and hybrid vehicles are more reliable and practical now than in the past because propulsion, control, and battery technologies have improved, and further significant improvements in such technologies are possible in the near term;

(D) electric and hybrid vehicles use little or no energy when stopped in traffic, in contrast to conventional automobiles and trucks;

(E) the power requirements of such vehicles could be satisfied by charging them during off-peak periods when existing electric generating plants are underutilized, thereby permitting more efficient use of existing generating capacity;

(F) such vehicles do not emit any significant pollutants or noise; and

(G) it is environmentally desirable for transportation systems to be powered from central sources, because pollutants emitted from stationary sources (such as electric generating plants) are potentially easier to control than pollutants emitted from moving vehicles; and

(6) the introduction of electric and hybrid vehicles would be facilitated by the establishment of a Federal program of research, development, and demonstration to explore electric and hybrid vehicle technologies.

(b) It is therefore declared to be the policy of the Congress in this chapter to—

(1) encourage and support accelerated research into, and development of, electric and hybrid vehicle technologies;

(2) demonstrate the economic and technological practicability of electric and hybrid vehicles for personal and commercial use in urban areas and for agricultural and personal use in rural areas;

(3) facilitate, and remove barriers to, the use of electric and hybrid vehicles in lieu of gasoline- and diesel-powered motor vehicles, where practicable; and

(4) promote the substitution of electric and hybrid vehicles for many gasoline- and diesel-powered vehicles currently used in routine short-haul, low-load applications, where such substitution would be beneficial.

(Pub. L. 94–413, §2, Sept. 17, 1976, 90 Stat. 1260.)

SHORT TITLE

Pub. L. 94–413, §1, Sept. 17, 1976, 90 Stat. 1260, provided: ''That this Act [enacting this chapter and amending sections 2451 and 2473 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare] may be cited as the 'Electric and Hybrid Vehicle Research, Development, and Demonstration Act of 1976'.''

§ 2502. Definitions

As used in this chapter, the term—

(1) Omitted

(2) ''advanced electric or hybrid vehicle'' means a vehicle which—

(A) minimizes the total amount of energy to be consumed with respect to its fabrication, operation, and disposal, and represents a substantial improvement over existing electric and hybrid vehicles with respect to the total amount of energy so consumed;

(B) is capable of being mass-produced and operated at a cost and in a manner which is sufficiently competitive to enable it to be produced and sold in numbers representing a reasonable portion of the market;

(C) is safe, damage-resistant, easy to repair, durable, and operates with sufficient performance with respect to acceleration, cold-weather starting, cruising speed, and other performance factors; and

(D) at a minimum, can be produced, distributed, operated, and disposed of in compliance with any applicable requirement of Federal law;

(3) ''commercial electric or hybrid vehicle'' includes any electric or hybrid vehicle which can be used (A) for business or agricultural production purposes on farms (e.g. tractors and trucks) or in rural areas, or (B) for commercial purposes in urban areas;

(4) ''electric vehicle'' means a vehicle which is powered by an electric motor drawing current from rechargeable storage batteries, fuel cells, or other portable sources of electrical current, and which may include a nonelectrical source of power designed to charge batteries and components thereof;

(5) ''hybrid vehicle'' means a vehicle propelled by a combination of an electric motor and an internal combustion engine or other power source and components thereof;

(6) ''project'' means the Electric and Hybrid Vehicle Research, Development, and Demonstration Project established under section 2503(a) of this title;

(7) Omitted

(8) ''small business concern'' shall have the meaning prescribed by the Secretary of Energy after consultation with the Small Business Administration.

(Pub. L. 94–413, §3, Sept. 17, 1976, 90 Stat. 1261; Pub. L. 95–91, title III, §301(a), Aug. 4, 1977, 91 Stat. 577.)

CODIFICATION

Par. (1), which read '' 'Administrator' means the Administrator of the Energy Research and Development Administration'', has been omitted from the Code in view of the termination of the Energy Research and Development Administration and the transfer of the functions of the Administration and the Administrator thereof to the Secretary of Energy pursuant to sections 301(a) and 703 of Pub. L. 95–91 which are classified to sections 7151(a) and 7293 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare. ''Secretary of Energy'' has been substituted for ''Administrator'' wherever appearing in this chapter.

Par. (7), which read '' 'Secretary' means the Secretary of Transportation'', has been omitted from the Code as unnecessary. In view of the substitution of ''Secretary of Energy'' for ''Administrator'' in this chapter, and for clarity, ''Secretary of Transportation'' has been substituted for ''Secretary'' wherever appearing in this chapter.

TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

In par. (8), ''Secretary of Energy'' substituted for ''Administrator'' pursuant to section 301(a) of Pub. L. 95–91, see Codification note set out above.

§ 2503. Duties of Secretary of Energy

(a) Establishment of project

The Secretary of Energy shall promptly establish, as an organizational entity within the Department of Energy, the Electric and Hybrid Vehicle Research, Development, and Demonstration Project.

(b) Management of project; arrangements with competent agencies

The Secretary of Energy shall have the responsibility for the overall management of the project. The Secretary of Energy may enter into any agreement or other arrangement with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the Department of Transportation, the National Science Foundation, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Department of Agriculture, or any other Federal agency, pursuant to which such agency shall conduct such specified parts or aspects of the project as the Secretary of Energy deems necessary or appropriate and within the particular competence of such agency, to the extent that such agency has capabilities which would enable it to contribute to the success of the project and the attainment of the purposes of this chapter.

(c) Promotion of research and development; demonstration projects; consumer needs; resulting changes

In providing for the effective management of this project, the Secretary of Energy shall have specific responsibility to—

(1) promote basic and applied research on electric and hybrid vehicle batteries, controls, and motors;

(2) determine optimum overall electric and hybrid vehicle design;

(3) conduct demonstration projects with respect to the feasibility of commercial electric and hybrid vehicles (A) by contracting for the purchase or lease of electric and hybrid vehicles for practical use, and (B) by entering into arrangements, with other governmental entities and with nongovernmental entities, for the operation of such vehicles;

(4) ascertain consumer needs and desires so as to match the design of electric and hybrid vehicles to their potential market; and

(5) ascertain the long-term changes in road design, urban planning, traffic management, maintenance facilities, utility rate structures, and tax policies which are needed to facilitate the manufacture and use of electric and hybrid vehicles in accordance with sections 2512 and 2513[1] of this title.

(Pub. L. 94–413, § 4, Sept. 17, 1976, 90 Stat. 1262; Pub. L. 95–91, title III, § 301(a), Aug. 4, 1977, 91 Stat. 577.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 2513 of this title, referred to in subsec. (c)(5), was repealed by Pub. L. 104–66, title I, § 1051(*o*), Dec. 21, 1995, 109 Stat. 717.

TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

''Department of Energy'' substituted for ''Energy Research and Development Administration'' in subsec. (a), and ''Secretary of Energy'' substituted for ''Administrator'' wherever appearing, pursuant to section 301(a) of Pub. L. 95–91, see Codification note set out under section 2502 of this title.

[1] See References in Text note below.

§ 2504. Coordination between Secretary of Energy and other agencies

(a) Consultation with Secretary of Transportation

In carrying out the project established under section 2503 of this title, the Secretary of Energy shall, to the maximum extent practicable, consult and coordinate with the Secretary of Transportation, with respect to any functions of the Secretary of Energy under this chapter which relate to regulatory activities or other responsibilities of the Secretary of Transportation, including safety and damageability programs.

(b) Assistance from other agencies

Each department, agency, and instrumentality of the executive branch of the Federal Government shall carefully consider any written request from the Secretary of Energy, or the head of any agency to which the Secretary of Energy has delegated responsibility for specified parts or aspects of the project, to furnish such assistance, on a reimbursable basis, as the Secretary of Energy or such head deems necessary to carry out the project and to achieve the purposes of this chapter. Such assistance may include transfer of personnel with their consent and without prejudice to their position and rating.

(Pub. L. 94–413, § 5, Sept. 17, 1976, 90 Stat. 1262; Pub. L. 95–91, title III, § 301(a), Aug. 4, 1977, 91 Stat. 577.)

CODIFICATION

In subsec. (a), ''Secretary of Transportation'' substituted for ''Secretary'' for clarity, see Codification note set out under section 2502 of this title.

TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

''Secretary of Energy'' substituted in text for ''Administrator'' pursuant to section 301(a) of Pub. L. 95–91, see Codification note set out under section 2502 of this title.

§ 2505. Research and development

The Secretary of Energy, acting through appropriate agencies and contractors, shall initiate and provide for the conduct of research and development in areas related to electric and hybrid vehicles, including—

(1) energy storage technology, including batteries and their potential for convenient recharging;

(2) vehicle control systems and overall design for energy conservation, including the use of regenerative braking;

(3) urban design and traffic management to promote maximum transportation-related energy conservation and minimum transportation-related degradation of the environment; and

(4) vehicle design which emphasizes durability, length of practical lifetime, ease of repair, and interchangeability and replaceability of parts.

(Pub. L. 94–413, § 6, Sept. 17, 1976, 90 Stat. 1263; Pub. L. 95–91, title III, § 301(a), Aug. 4, 1977, 91 Stat. 577.)