

with, and do not duplicate the efforts of, other programs at the Department of Commerce or other Federal agencies.

(2) Collaboration

(A) In general

The Secretary shall explore and pursue collaboration with other Federal agencies, including through multiagency funding opportunities, on regional innovation strategies.

(B) Small businesses

The Secretary shall ensure that such collaboration with Federal agencies prioritizes the needs and challenges of small businesses.

(g) Evaluation

(1) In general

Not later than 3 years after January 4, 2011, the Secretary shall enter into a contract with an independent entity, such as the National Academy of Sciences, to conduct an evaluation of the program established under subsection (a).

(2) Requirements

The evaluation shall include—

(A) whether the program is achieving its goals;

(B) any recommendations for how the program may be improved; and

(C) a recommendation as to whether the program should be continued or terminated.

(h) Definitions

In this section:

(1) Regional innovation cluster

The term “regional innovation cluster” means a geographically bounded network of similar, synergistic, or complementary entities that—

(A) are engaged in or with a particular industry sector;

(B) have active channels for business transactions and communication;

(C) share specialized infrastructure, labor markets, and services; and

(D) leverage the region’s unique competitive strengths to stimulate innovation and create jobs.

(2) Science park

The term “Science¹ park” means a property-based venture, which has—

(A) master-planned property and buildings designed primarily for private-public research and development activities, high technology and science-based companies, and research and development support services;

(B) a contractual or operational relationship with one or more science- or research-related institution of higher education or governmental or non-profit research laboratories;

(C) a primary mission to promote research and development through industry partnerships, assisting in the growth of new ventures and promoting innovation-driven economic development;

(D) a role in facilitating the transfer of technology and business skills between researchers and industry teams; and

(E) a role in promoting technology-led economic development for the community or region in which the science park is located. A science park may be owned by a governmental or not-for-profit entity, but it may enter into partnerships or joint ventures with for-profit entities for development or management of specific components of the park.

(3) State

The term “State” means one of the several States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, or any other territory or possession of the United States.

(i) Authorization of appropriations

Except as provided in subsection (d)(8), there are authorized to be appropriated \$100,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2011 through 2013 to carry out this section (other than for loan guarantees under subsection (d)).

(Pub. L. 96-480, §27, as added Pub. L. 111-358, title VI, §603, Jan. 4, 2011, 124 Stat. 4030.)

CHANGE OF NAME

Committee on Science and Technology of House of Representatives changed to Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of House of Representatives by House Resolution No. 5, One Hundred Twelfth Congress, Jan. 5, 2011.

CHAPTER 64—METHANE TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, AND DEMONSTRATION

Sec.	
3801.	Congressional statement of findings and declaration of policy.
3802.	Definitions.
3803.	Duties of Secretary of Energy.
3804.	Coordination with other Federal departments and agencies.
3805.	Research and development activities.
3806.	Demonstrations.
3807.	Use of methane-fueled vehicles by Federal agencies and departments.
3808.	Repealed.
3809.	Authorization of appropriations; required funding.
3810.	Relationship to other laws.

§ 3801. Congressional statement of findings and declaration of policy

(a) The Congress finds and declares that—

(1) gasoline and diesel fuel for vehicular use are in short supply and constitute a sizable portion of domestic petroleum consumption;

(2) methane use in fleet-operated vehicles would result in substantial reduction in oil imports;

(3) methane is in more abundant domestic supply than petroleum products, is the primary component of natural gas and can be derived in increased quantities from coal, biomass, waste products, and other renewable resources;

(4) recoverable methane presently available in the United States is not fully utilized;

¹ So in original. Probably should not be capitalized.