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§ 2601. Findings

The Congress finds that the protection of the public health, safety, and welfare, the preservation of national security, and the proper exercise of congressional authority under the Constitution to regulate interstate commerce require—

- (1) a program providing for increased conservation of electric energy, increased efficiency in the use of facilities and resources by electric utilities, and equitable retail rates for electric consumers,
- (2) a program to improve the wholesale distribution of electric energy, the reliability of electric service, the procedures concerning consideration of wholesale rate applications before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, the participation of the public in matters before the Commission, and to provide other measures with respect to the regulation of the wholesale sale of electric energy,
- (3) a program to provide for the expeditious development of hydroelectric potential at existing small dams to provide needed hydroelectric power,
- (4) a program for the conservation of natural gas while insuring that rates to natural gas consumers are equitable,
- (5) a program to encourage the development of crude oil transportation systems, and
- (6) the establishment of certain other authorities as provided in title VI of this Act.

(Pub. L. 95-617, §2, Nov. 9, 1978, 92 Stat. 3119.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This Act, referred to in par. (6), is Pub. L. 95-617, Nov. 9, 1978, 92 Stat. 3117, as amended, known as the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978. Title VI of this Act enacted sections 824a-4 and 2645 of this title, section 918c of Title 7, Agriculture, and sections 717x to 717z of Title 15, Commerce and Trade, amended section 717f of Title 15 and sections 1311, 1312, and 1314 to 1316 of Title 30, Mineral Lands and Mining, and enacted provisions set out as a note under section 2621 of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note below and Tables.

CODIFICATION

This section was not enacted as part of title I of Pub. L. 95-617 which comprises this chapter.

SHORT TITLE

Pub. L. 95-617, §1, Nov. 9, 1978, 92 Stat. 3117, provided that: "This Act [enacting this chapter, and sections

823a, 824a-1 to 824a-4, 824i to 824k, 825q-1, and 2701 to 2708 of this title, section 918c of Title 7, Agriculture, sections 717x to 717z and 3201 to 3211 of Title 15, Commerce and Trade, section 6808 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare, and sections 2001 to 2012 of Title 43, Public Lands, amending sections 796, 824, 824a, 824d, and 825d of this title, section 717f of Title 15, sections 1311, 1312, and 1314 to 1316 of Title 30, Mineral Lands and Mining, and sections 6801 to 6807 of Title 42, and enacting provisions set out as notes under sections 824, 824a, 824d, 825d, and 2621 of this title] may be cited as the 'Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978'."

§ 2602. Definitions

As used in this Act, except as otherwise specifically provided—

(1) The term "antitrust laws" includes the Sherman Antitrust Act (15 U.S.C. 1 and following), the Clayton Act (15 U.S.C. 12 and following), the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 14[41] and following), the Wilson Tariff Act (15 U.S.C. 8 and 9), and the Act of June 19, 1936, chapter 592 (15 U.S.C. 13, 13a, 13b, and 21A).

(2) The term "class" means, with respect to electric consumers, any group of such consumers who have similar characteristics of electric energy use.

(3) The term "Commission" means the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

(4) The term "electric utility" means any person, State agency, or Federal agency, which sells electric energy.

(5) The term "electric consumer" means any person, State agency, or Federal agency, to which electric energy is sold other than for purposes of resale.

(6) The term "evidentiary hearing" means—

(A) in the case of a State agency, a proceeding which (i) is open to the public, (ii) includes notice to participants and an opportunity for such participants to present direct and rebuttal evidence and to cross-examine witnesses, (iii) includes a written decision, based upon evidence appearing in a written record of the proceeding, and (iv) is subject to judicial review;

(B) in the case of a Federal agency, a proceeding conducted as provided in sections 554, 556, and 557 of title 5; and

(C) in the case of a proceeding conducted by any entity other than a State or Federal agency, a proceeding which conforms, to the extent appropriate, with the requirements of subparagraph (A).

(7) The term "Federal agency" means an executive agency (as defined in section 105 of title 5).

(8) The term "load management technique" means any technique (other than a time-of-day or seasonal rate) to reduce the maximum kilowatt demand on the electric utility, including ripple or radio control mechanisms, and other types of interruptible electric service, energy storage devices, and load-limiting devices.

(9) The term "nonregulated electric utility" means any electric utility other than a State regulated electric utility.

(10) The term "rate" means (A) any price, rate, charge, or classification made, demanded, observed, or received with respect to