

§ 571. Declaration of policy

It is hereby recognized that the presence of large volumes of water in anthracite coal formations involves serious wastage of the fuel resources of the Nation, and constitutes a menace to health and safety and national security. It is therefore declared to be the policy of the Congress to provide for the control and drainage of water in the anthracite coal formations and thereby conserve natural resources, promote national security, prevent injuries and loss of life, and preserve public and private property, and to seal abandoned coal mines and to fill voids in abandoned coal mines, in those instances where such work is in the interest of the public health or safety.

(July 15, 1955, ch. 369, §1, 69 Stat. 352; Pub. L. 87-818, §1(1), Oct. 15, 1962, 76 Stat. 934.)

AMENDMENTS

1962—Pub. L. 87-818 declared it to be the policy of the Congress “to seal abandoned coal mines and to fill voids in abandoned coal mines, in those instances where such work is in the interest of the public health or safety”.

§ 572. United States contributions to Pennsylvania: authority, conditions, limitations

The Secretary of the Interior is authorized, in order to carry out the purposes mentioned in section 571 of this title, to make financial contributions on the basis of programs or projects approved by the Secretary to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (hereinafter designated as the “Commonwealth”) to seal abandoned coal mines and to fill voids in abandoned coal mines, in those instances where such work is in the interest of the public health or safety, and for control and drainage of water which, if not so controlled or drained, will cause the flooding of anthracite coal formations, said contributions to be applied to the cost of drainage works, pumping plants, and related facilities but subject, however, to the following conditions and limitations:

(a) Contributions to be matched by Commonwealth

The amounts authorized to be contributed by the Secretary of the Interior to the Commonwealth shall be equally matched by the Commonwealth;

(b) Amount of contributions authorized

The total amount of contributions by the Secretary of the Interior under the authority of this chapter shall not exceed \$8,500,000, of which \$1,500,000 of the unexpended balance remaining as of July 31, 1962, shall be reserved for the control and drainage of water;

(c) Limitation on use of contribution

The amounts contributed by the Secretary of the Interior under the authority of this chapter and the equally matched amounts contributed by the Commonwealth shall not be used for operating and maintaining projects constructed pursuant to this chapter or for the purchase of culm, rock, or spoil banks;

(d) Commonwealth responsible for installation and operation of projects

The Commonwealth shall have full responsibility for installing, operating, and maintain-

ing projects constructed pursuant to this chapter, and shall give evidence, satisfactory to the Secretary of the Interior, that it will enforce effective installation, operation, and maintenance safeguards;

(e) Location and operation of projects

Projects constructed pursuant to this chapter shall be so located, operated, and maintained as to provide the maximum conservation of anthracite coal resources or, in those instances where such work would be in the interest of the public health or safety, to seal abandoned coal mines and to fill voids in abandoned coal mines, and, where possible, to avoid creating inequities among those mines which may be affected by the waters to be controlled thereby; and

(f) Economic justification for abandoned coal mine projects

Projects for the sealing of abandoned coal mines or the filling of voids in abandoned coal mines shall be determined by the Secretary of the Interior to be economically justified. The Secretary shall not find any project to be economically justified unless the potential benefits are estimated by him to exceed the estimated cost of the project.

(July 15, 1955, ch. 369, §2, 69 Stat. 353; Pub. L. 87-818, §1(2)-(7), Oct. 15, 1962, 76 Stat. 934.)

AMENDMENTS

1962—Pub. L. 87-818, §1(2), authorized the Secretary of the Interior, in the preamble clause, to seal abandoned coal mines and to fill voids in abandoned coal mines, in those instances where such work is in the interest of the public health or safety.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 87-818, §1(3), reserved \$1,500,000 of the unexpended balance remaining as of July 31, 1962, for the control and drainage of water.

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 87-818, §1(4), prohibited the use of contributions for the purchase of culm, rock, or spoil banks.

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 87-818, §1(5), struck out “and” after the semicolon.

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 87-818, §1(6), prescribed that projects be so located, operated, and maintained as to seal abandoned coal mines and to fill voids in abandoned coal mines in those instances where such work would be in the interest of the public health or safety.

Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 87-818, §1(7), added subsec. (f).

§ 573. Statement by Commonwealth for Secretary

The Commonwealth shall furnish to the Secretary of the Interior a statement with respect to the project showing work done, the status of the project, expenditures and amounts obligated, at such times and in such detail as the Secretary of the Interior shall require for the purposes of this chapter.

(July 15, 1955, ch. 369, §3, 69 Stat. 353.)

§ 574. Hearings; withholding payments

Whenever the Secretary of the Interior, after reasonable notice and opportunity for hearing, finds that there is a failure to expend funds in accordance with the terms and conditions governing the Federal contribution for such approved projects, he shall notify the Commonwealth that further payments will not be made to the Commonwealth from appropriations under this chapter until he is satisfied that

there will no longer be any such failure. Until he is so satisfied the Secretary of the Interior shall withhold the payment of any financial contributions to the Commonwealth.

(July 15, 1955, ch. 369, § 4, 69 Stat. 353.)

§ 575. Repealed. Pub. L. 105-362, title IX, § 901(i)(1), Nov. 10, 1998, 112 Stat. 3290

Section, acts July 15, 1955, ch. 369, § 5, 69 Stat. 353; Pub. L. 87-818, § 1(8), Oct. 15, 1962, 76 Stat. 935, related to annual reports to Congress by Secretary of the Interior on anthracite mine drainage and flood control program.

§ 576. Authorization of appropriations

There is hereby authorized to be appropriated such amounts as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this chapter.

(July 15, 1955, ch. 369, § 5, formerly § 6, 69 Stat. 353; renumbered § 5, Pub. L. 105-362, title IX, § 901(i)(2), Nov. 10, 1998, 112 Stat. 3290.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 5 of act July 15, 1955, ch. 369, was classified to section 575 of this title, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 105-362, § 901(i)(1).

CHAPTER 15—SURFACE RESOURCES

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SUBCHAPTER I—DISPOSAL OF MATERIALS ON PUBLIC LANDS

§ 601. Rules and regulations governing disposal of materials; payment; removal without charge; lands excluded

The Secretary, under such rules and regulations as he may prescribe, may dispose of mineral materials (including but not limited to common varieties of the following: sand, stone, gravel, pumice, pumicite, cinders, and clay) and vegetative materials (including but not limited to yucca, manzanita, mesquite, cactus, and timber or other forest products) on public lands of the United States, including, for the purposes of this subchapter, land described in subchapter V of chapter 28 of title 43, if the disposal of such mineral or vegetative materials (1) is not otherwise expressly authorized by law, including, but not limited to, subchapter I of chapter 8A of title 43, and the United States mining laws, and

(2) is not expressly prohibited by laws of the United States, and (3) would not be detrimental to the public interest. Such materials may be disposed of only in accordance with the provisions of this subchapter and upon the payment of adequate compensation therefor, to be determined by the Secretary: *Provided, however*, That, to the extent not otherwise authorized by law, the Secretary is authorized in his discretion to permit any Federal, State, or Territorial agency, unit or subdivision, including municipalities, or any association or corporation not organized for profit, to take and remove, without charge, materials and resources subject to this subchapter, for use other than for commercial or industrial purposes or resale. Where the lands have been withdrawn in aid of a function of a Federal department or agency other than the department headed by the Secretary or of a State, Territory, county, municipality, water district or other local governmental subdivision or agency, the Secretary may make disposals under this subchapter only with the consent of such other Federal department or agency or of such State, Territory, or local governmental unit. Nothing in this subchapter shall be construed to apply to lands in any national park, or national monument or to any Indian lands, or lands set aside or held for the use or benefit of Indians, including lands over which jurisdiction has been transferred to the Department of the Interior by Executive order for the use of Indians. As used in this subchapter, the word "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior except that it means the Secretary of Agriculture where the lands involved are administered by him for national forest purposes or for the purposes of title III of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act [7 U.S.C. 1010 et seq.] or where withdrawn for the purpose of any other function of the Department of Agriculture.

(July 31, 1947, ch. 406, § 1, 61 Stat. 681; July 23, 1955, ch. 375, § 1, 69 Stat. 367.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Subchapter V (§1181a et seq.) of chapter 28 of title 43, referred to in text, was in the original a reference to the Acts of Aug. 28, 1937 (50 Stat. 874), and June 24, 1954 (68 Stat. 270), as amended. For complete classification of these Acts to the Code, see Tables.

Subchapter I (§315 et seq.) of chapter 8A of title 43, referred to in text, was in the original a reference to the Act of June 28, 1934 (48 Stat. 1269), as amended, known as the Taylor Grazing Act. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 315 of Title 43 and Tables.

The Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act, referred to in text, is act July 22, 1937, ch. 517, 50 Stat. 522, as amended. Title III of such Act is classified generally to subchapter III (§1010 et seq.) of chapter 33 of Title 7, Agriculture. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see section 1000 of Title 7 and Tables.

AMENDMENTS

1955—Act July 23, 1955, required disposal under this subchapter of common varieties of sand, stone, gravel, pumice, pumicite, and cinders, and gave the Secretary of Agriculture the same authority as to lands under his jurisdiction as the Secretary of Interior possesses as to lands under his jurisdiction in the disposal of mining and vegetative materials.