

**(b) Applications**

To be eligible to receive a grant under this section, a unit of local government or consortia shall submit to the Secretary an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require, including a plan of the unit of local government to carry out an activity described in section 17154 of this title.

**(c) Priority**

In providing grants under this section, the Secretary shall give priority to units of local government—

- (1) located in States with populations of less than 2,000,000; or
- (2) that plan to carry out projects that would result in significant energy efficiency improvements or reductions in fossil fuel use.

(Pub. L. 110-140, title V, §546, Dec. 19, 2007, 121 Stat. 1673.)

**§ 17157. Review and evaluation****(a) In general**

The Secretary may review and evaluate the performance of any eligible entity that receives a grant under the program, including by conducting an audit, as the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

**(b) Withholding of funds**

The Secretary may withhold from an eligible entity any portion of a grant to be provided to the eligible entity under the program if the Secretary determines that the eligible entity has failed to achieve compliance with—

- (1) any applicable guideline or regulation of the Secretary relating to the program, including the misuse or misappropriation of funds provided under the program; or
- (2) the energy efficiency and conservation strategy of the eligible entity.

(Pub. L. 110-140, title V, §547, Dec. 19, 2007, 121 Stat. 1674.)

**§ 17158. Funding****(a) Authorization of appropriations****(1) Grants**

There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary for the provision of grants under the program \$2,000,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

**(2) Administrative costs**

There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary for administrative expenses of the program—

- (A) \$20,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 and 2009;
- (B) \$25,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2010 and 2011; and
- (C) \$30,000,000 for fiscal year 2012.

**(b) Maintenance of funding**

The funding provided under this section shall supplement (and not supplant) other Federal funding provided under—

- (1) a State energy conservation plan established under part D of title III of the Energy

Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6321 et seq.); or

- (2) the Weatherization Assistance Program for Low-Income Persons established under part A of title IV of the Energy Conservation and Production Act (42 U.S.C. 6861 et seq.).

(Pub. L. 110-140, title V, §548, Dec. 19, 2007, 121 Stat. 1674; Pub. L. 111-5, div. A, title IV, §404(c), Feb. 17, 2009, 123 Stat. 143.)

## REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Energy Policy and Conservation Act, referred to in subsec. (b)(1), is Pub. L. 94-163, Dec. 22, 1975, 89 Stat. 871. Part D of title III of the Act is classified generally to part B (§6321 et seq.) of subchapter III of chapter 77 of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 6201 of this title and Tables.

The Energy Conservation and Production Act, referred to in subsec. (b)(2), is Pub. L. 94-385, Aug. 14, 1976, 90 Stat. 1125. Part A of title IV of the Act is classified generally to part A (§6861 et seq.) of subchapter III of chapter 81 of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 6801 of this title and Tables.

## AMENDMENTS

2009—Subsec. (a)(1). Pub. L. 111-5 struck out “; provided that 49 percent of the appropriated funds shall be distributed using the definition of eligible unit of local government-alternative 1 in section 17151(3)(A) of this title and 49 percent of the appropriated funds shall be distributed using the definition of eligible unit of local government-alternative 2 in section 17151(3)(B) of this title” after “2012”.

## SUBCHAPTER V—ACCELERATED RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

## PART A—SOLAR ENERGY

**§ 17171. Thermal energy storage research and development program****(a) Establishment**

The Secretary shall establish a program of research and development to provide lower cost and more viable thermal energy storage technologies to enable the shifting of electric power loads on demand and extend the operating time of concentrating solar power electric generating plants.

**(b) Authorization of appropriations**

There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary for carrying out this section \$5,000,000 for fiscal year 2008, \$7,000,000 for fiscal year 2009, \$9,000,000 for fiscal year 2010, \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 2011, and \$12,000,000 for fiscal year 2012.

(Pub. L. 110-140, title VI, §602, Dec. 19, 2007, 121 Stat. 1674.)

## SHORT TITLE

This part known as the “Solar Energy Research and Advancement Act of 2007”, see Short Title note set out under section 17001 of this title.

**§ 17172. Solar energy curriculum development and certification grants****(a) Establishment**

The Secretary shall establish in the Office of Solar Energy Technologies a competitive grant program to create and strengthen solar industry

workforce training and internship programs in installation, operation, and maintenance of solar energy products. The goal of this program is to ensure a supply of well-trained individuals to support the expansion of the solar energy industry.

**(b) Authorized activities**

Grant funds may be used to support the following activities:

(1) Creation and development of a solar energy curriculum appropriate for the local educational, entrepreneurial, and environmental conditions, including curriculum for community colleges.

(2) Support of certification programs for individual solar energy system installers, instructors, and training programs.

(3) Internship programs that provide hands-on participation by students in commercial applications.

(4) Activities required to obtain certification of training programs and facilities by an industry-accepted quality-control certification program.

(5) Incorporation of solar-specific learning modules into traditional occupational training and internship programs for construction-related trades.

(6) The purchase of equipment necessary to carry out activities under this section.

(7) Support of programs that provide guidance and updates to solar energy curriculum instructors.

**(c) Administration of grants**

Grants may be awarded under this section for up to 3 years. The Secretary shall award grants to ensure sufficient geographic distribution of training programs nationally. Grants shall only be awarded for programs certified by an industry-accepted quality-control certification institution, or for new and growing programs with a credible path to certification. Due consideration shall be given to women, underrepresented minorities, and persons with disabilities.

**(d) Report**

The Secretary shall make public, on the website of the Department or upon request, information on the name and institution for all grants awarded under this section, including a brief description of the project as well as the grant award amount.

**(e) Authorization of appropriations**

There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary for carrying out this section \$10,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

(Pub. L. 110-140, title VI, §604, Dec. 19, 2007, 121 Stat. 1675.)

**§ 17173. Daylighting systems and direct solar light pipe technology**

**(a) Establishment**

The Secretary shall establish a program of research and development to provide assistance in the demonstration and commercial application of direct solar renewable energy sources to provide alternatives to traditional power genera-

tion for lighting and illumination, including light pipe technology, and to promote greater energy conservation and improved efficiency. All direct solar renewable energy devices supported under this program shall have the capability to provide measurable data on the amount of kilowatt-hours saved over the traditionally powered light sources they have replaced.

**(b) Reporting**

The Secretary shall transmit to Congress an annual report assessing the measurable data derived from each project in the direct solar renewable energy sources program and the energy savings resulting from its use.

**(c) Definitions**

For purposes of this section—

(1) the term “direct solar renewable energy” means energy from a device that converts sunlight into useable light within a building, tunnel, or other enclosed structure, replacing artificial light generated by a light fixture and doing so without the conversion of the sunlight into another form of energy; and

(2) the term “light pipe” means a device designed to transport visible solar radiation from its collection point to the interior of a building while excluding interior heat gain in the nonheating season.

**(d) Authorization of appropriations**

There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary for carrying out this section \$3,500,000 for each of the fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

(Pub. L. 110-140, title VI, §605, Dec. 19, 2007, 121 Stat. 1676.)

**§ 17174. Solar air conditioning research and development program**

**(a) Establishment**

The Secretary shall establish a research, development, and demonstration program to promote less costly and more reliable decentralized distributed solar-powered air conditioning for individuals and businesses.

**(b) Authorized activities**

Grants made available under this section may be used to support the following activities:

(1) Advancing solar thermal collectors, including concentrating solar thermal and electric systems, flat plate and evacuated tube collector performance.

(2) Achieving technical and economic integration of solar-powered distributed air-conditioning systems with existing hot water and storage systems for residential applications.

(3) Designing and demonstrating mass manufacturing capability to reduce costs of modular standardized solar-powered distributed air conditioning systems and components.

(4) Improving the efficiency of solar-powered distributed air-conditioning to increase the effectiveness of solar-powered absorption chillers, solar-driven compressors and condensers,<sup>1</sup> and cost-effective precooling approaches.

(5) Researching and comparing performance of solar-powered distributed air conditioning

<sup>1</sup> So in original.