

Committee on Science and Technology of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate on advanced concepts and technologies to maximize the geothermal resource potential of the United States. The reports shall include—

- (1) the use of carbon dioxide as an alternative geofluid with potential carbon sequestration benefits;
- (2) mineral recovery from geofluids;
- (3) use of geothermal energy to produce hydrogen;
- (4) use of geothermal energy to produce biofuels;
- (5) use of geothermal heat for oil recovery from oil shales and tar sands; and
- (6) other advanced geothermal technologies, including advanced drilling technologies and advanced power conversion technologies.

(b) Progress reports

(1) Not later than 36 months after December 19, 2007, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Science and Technology of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate an interim report describing the progress made under this part. At the end of 60 months, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report on the results of projects undertaken under this part and other such information the Secretary considers appropriate.

(2) As necessary, the Secretary shall report to the Congress on any legal, regulatory, or other barriers encountered that hinder economic development of these resources, and provide recommendations on legislative or other actions needed to address such impediments.

(Pub. L. 110–140, title VI, § 621, Dec. 19, 2007, 121 Stat. 1684.)

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.

§ 17201. Applicability of other laws

Nothing in this part shall be construed as waiving, modifying, or superseding the applicability of any requirement under any environmental or other Federal or State law. To the extent that activities authorized in this part take place in coastal and ocean areas, the Secretary shall consult with the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere, regarding the potential marine environmental impacts and measures to address such impacts.

(Pub. L. 110–140, title VI, § 622, Dec. 19, 2007, 121 Stat. 1684.)

§ 17202. Authorization of appropriations

There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out this part \$90,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2008 through 2012, of which \$10,000,000 for each fiscal year shall be for carrying out section 17195 of this title. There are also authorized to be appropriated to the Sec-

retary for the Intermountain West Geothermal Consortium \$5,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

(Pub. L. 110–140, title VI, § 623, Dec. 19, 2007, 121 Stat. 1684.)

§ 17203. International geothermal energy development

(a) In general

The Secretary of Energy, in coordination with other appropriate Federal and multilateral agencies (including the United States Agency for International Development) shall support international collaborative efforts to promote the research, development, and deployment of geothermal technologies used to develop hydrothermal and enhanced geothermal system resources, including as partners (as appropriate) the African Rift Geothermal Development Facility, Australia, China, France, the Republic of Iceland, India, Japan, and the United Kingdom.

(b) United States Trade and Development Agency

The Director of the United States Trade and Development Agency may—

- (1) encourage participation by United States firms in actions taken to carry out subsection (a); and
- (2) provide grants and other financial support for feasibility and resource assessment studies conducted in, or intended to benefit, less developed countries.

(c) Authorization of appropriations

There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

(Pub. L. 110–140, title VI, § 624, Dec. 19, 2007, 121 Stat. 1684.)

§ 17204. High cost region geothermal energy grant program

(a) Definitions

In this section:

(1) Eligible entity

The term “eligible entity” means—

- (A) a utility;
- (B) an electric cooperative;
- (C) a State;
- (D) a political subdivision of a State;
- (E) an Indian tribe; or
- (F) a Native corporation.

(2) High-cost region

The term “high-cost region” means a region in which the average cost of electrical power exceeds 150 percent of the national average retail cost, as determined by the Secretary.

(b) Program

The Secretary shall use amounts made available to carry out this section to make grants to eligible entities for activities described in subsection (c).

(c) Eligible activities

An eligible entity may use grant funds under this section, with respect to a geothermal energy project in a high-cost region, only—