

**§ 2705. Simplified and expeditious licensing procedures**

**(a) Establishment of program**

The Commission shall establish, in such manner as the Commission deems appropriate, consistent with the applicable provisions of law, a program to use simple and expeditious licensing procedures under the Federal Power Act [16 U.S.C. 791a et seq.] for small hydroelectric power projects in connection with existing dams.

**(b) Prerequisites**

Before issuing any license under the Federal Power Act [16 U.S.C. 791a et seq.] for the construction or operation of any small hydroelectric power project the Commission—

(1) shall assess the safety of existing structures in any proposed project (including possible consequences associated with failure of such structures), and

(2) shall provide an opportunity for consultation with the Council on Environmental Quality and the Environmental Protection Agency with respect to the environmental effects of such project.

Nothing in this subsection exempts any such project from any requirement applicable to any such project under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 [42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.], the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act [16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.], the Endangered Species Act [16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.], or any other provision of Federal law.

**(c) Fish and wildlife facilities**

The Commission shall encourage applicants for licenses for small hydroelectric power projects to make use of public funds and other assistance for the design and construction of fish and wildlife facilities which may be required in connection with any development of such project.

**(d) Exemptions from licensing requirements in certain cases**

The Commission may in its discretion (by rule or order) grant an exemption in whole or in part from the requirements (including the licensing requirements) of part I of the Federal Power Act [16 U.S.C. 791a et seq.] to small hydroelectric power projects having a proposed installed capacity of 10,000 kilowatts or less, on a case-by-case basis or on the basis of classes or categories of projects, subject to the same limitations (to ensure protection for fish and wildlife as well as other environmental concerns) as those which are set forth in subsections (c) and (d) of section 30 of the Federal Power Act [16 U.S.C. 823a (c) and (d)] with respect to determinations made and exemptions granted under subsection (b) of such section 30 [16 U.S.C. 823a(b)]; and subsections (c) and (d) of such section 30 shall apply with respect to actions taken and exemptions granted under this subsection. Except as specifically provided in this subsection, the granting of an exemption to a project under this subsection shall in no case have the effect of waiving or limiting the application (to such project) of the second sentence of subsection (b) of this section. (Pub. L. 95-617, title IV, §405, Nov. 9, 1978, 92 Stat. 3156; Pub. L. 96-294, title IV, §408(b), June

30, 1980, 94 Stat. 718; Pub. L. 113-23, §§3, 4(b), Aug. 9, 2013, 127 Stat. 493, 495.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Commission, referred to in text, means the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, see section 2602(3) of this title.

The Federal Power Act, referred to in subsecs. (a), (b), and (d), is act June 10, 1920, ch. 285, 41 Stat. 1063, as amended, which is classified generally to chapter 12 (§791a et seq.) of this title. Part I of the Federal Power Act is classified generally to subchapter I (§791a et seq.) of chapter 12 of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see section 791a of this title and Tables.

The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, referred to in subsec. (b), is Pub. L. 91-190, Jan. 1, 1970, 83 Stat. 852, as amended, which is classified generally to chapter 55 (§4321 et seq.) of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 4321 of Title 42 and Tables.

The Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, referred to in subsec. (b), is act Mar. 10, 1934, ch. 55, 48 Stat. 401, as amended, which is classified generally to sections 661 to 666c of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 661 of this title and Tables.

The Endangered Species Act, referred to in subsec. (b), probably means the Endangered Species Act of 1973, Pub. L. 93-205, Dec. 28, 1973, 87 Stat. 884, as amended, which is classified generally to chapter 35 (§1531 et seq.) of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1531 of this title and Tables.

AMENDMENTS

2013—Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 113-23 substituted “10,000 kilowatts” for “5,000 kilowatts” and “subsection (b) of such section 30” for “subsection (a) of such section 30”.

1980—Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 96-294 added subsec. (d).

**§ 2706. New impoundments**

Nothing in this chapter authorizes (1) the loan of funds for construction of any new dam or other impoundment, or (2) the simple and expeditious licensing of any such new dam or other impoundment.

(Pub. L. 95-617, title IV, §406, Nov. 9, 1978, 92 Stat. 3156.)

**§ 2707. Authorizations**

There are hereby authorized to be appropriated for each of the fiscal years ending September 30, 1978, September 30, 1979, and September 30, 1980, not to exceed \$10,000,000 for loans to be made pursuant to section 2702 of this title, such funds to remain available until expended. There are hereby authorized to be appropriated for each of the fiscal years ending September 30, 1978, September 30, 1979, September 30, 1980, not to exceed \$100,000,000 for loans to be made pursuant to section 2703 of this title, such funds to remain available until expended.

(Pub. L. 95-617, title IV, §407, Nov. 9, 1978, 92 Stat. 3156.)

**§ 2708. Definitions**

(a) For purposes of this chapter, the term—

(1) “small hydroelectric power project” means any hydroelectric power project which is located at the site of any existing dam, which uses the water power potential of such

dam, and which has not more than 30,000 kilowatts of installed capacity;

(2) “electric cooperative” means any cooperative association eligible to receive loans under section 904 of title 7;

(3) “industrial development agency” means any agency which is permitted to issue obligations the interest on which is excludable from gross income under section 103 of title 26;

(4) “project costs” means the cost of acquisition<sup>1</sup> or construction of all facilities and services and the cost of acquisition of all land and interests in land used in the design and construction and operation of a small hydroelectric power project;

(5) “nonprofit organization” means any organization described in section 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(4) of title 26 and exempt from tax under section 501(a) of title 26 (but only with respect to a trade or business carried on by such organization which is not an unrelated trade or business, determined by applying section 513(a) of title 26 to such organization);

(6) “existing dam” means any dam, the construction of which was completed or on<sup>2</sup> before July 22, 2005, and which does not require any construction or enlargement of impoundment structures (other than repairs or reconstruction) in connection with the installation of any small hydroelectric power project;

(7) “municipality” has the meaning provided in section 796 of this title; and

(8) “person” has the meaning provided in section 796 of this title.

(b) The requirement in subsection (a)(1) of this section that a project be located at the site of an existing dam in order to qualify as a small hydroelectric power project, and the other provisions of this chapter which require that a project be at or in connection with an existing dam (or utilize the potential of such dam) in order to be assisted under or included within such provisions, shall not be construed to exclude—

(1) from the definition contained in such subsection (a)(1), or

(2) from any other provision of this chapter, any project which utilizes or proposes to utilize natural water features for the generation of electricity, without the need for any dam or impoundment, in a manner which (as determined by the Commission) will achieve the purposes of this chapter and will do so without any adverse effect upon such natural water features.

(Pub. L. 95-617, title IV, § 408, Nov. 9, 1978, 92 Stat. 3156; Pub. L. 96-294, title IV, § 408(a), (c), June 30, 1980, 94 Stat. 718; Pub. L. 99-514, § 2, Oct. 22, 1986, 100 Stat. 2095; Pub. L. 109-58, title II, § 246, Aug. 8, 2005, 119 Stat. 679.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Commission, referred to in subsec. (b), means the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, see section 2602(3) of this title.

AMENDMENTS

2005—Subsec. (a)(6). Pub. L. 109-58 substituted “July 22, 2005” for “April 20, 1977”.

<sup>1</sup> So in original. Probably should be “acquisition”.

<sup>2</sup> So in original. Probably should be “on or”.

1986—Subsec. (a)(3), (5). Pub. L. 99-514 substituted “Internal Revenue Code of 1986” for “Internal Revenue Code of 1954”, which for purposes of codification was translated as “title 26” thus requiring no change in text.

1980—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 96-294, § 408(a), (c)(1), designated existing provisions as subsec. (a) and, as so designated, in par. (1) substituted “30,000” for “15,000”.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 96-294, § 408(c)(2), added subsec. (b).

**CHAPTER 48—NATIONAL AQUACULTURE POLICY, PLANNING, AND DEVELOPMENT**

Sec.	
2801.	Congressional findings, purpose, and policy.
2802.	Definitions.
2803.	National Aquaculture Development Plan.
2804.	Functions and powers of Secretaries.
2805.	Coordination of national activities regarding aquaculture.
2806.	Contracts and grants.
2807.	Capital requirements for aquaculture.
2808.	Regulatory constraints on aquaculture.
2809.	Authorizations for appropriations.
2810.	Disclaimer.

**§ 2801. Congressional findings, purpose, and policy**

**(a) Findings**

Congress finds the following:

(1) The harvest of certain species of fish and shellfish exceeds levels of optimum sustainable yield, thereby making it more difficult to meet the increasing demand for aquatic food.

(2) To satisfy the domestic market for aquatic food, the United States imports more than 50 per centum of its fish and shellfish, but this dependence on imports adversely affects the national balance of payments and contributes to the uncertainty of supplies.

(3) Although aquaculture currently contributes approximately 13 percent of world seafood production, less than 6 percent of current United States seafood production results from aquaculture. Domestic aquacultural production, therefore, has the potential for significant growth.

(4) Aquacultural production of aquatic plants can provide sources of food, industrial materials, pharmaceuticals, and energy, and can assist in the control and abatement of pollution.

(5) The rehabilitation and enhancement of fish and shellfish resources are desirable applications of aquacultural technology.

(6) The principal responsibility for the development of aquaculture in the United States must rest with the private sector.

(7) Despite its potential, the development of aquaculture in the United States has been inhibited by many scientific, economic, legal, and production factors, such as inadequate credit, diffused legal jurisdiction, the lack of management information, the lack of supportive Government policies, and the lack of reliable supplies of seed stock.

(8) Many areas of the United States are suitable for aquaculture, but are subject to land-use or water-use management policies that do not adequately consider the potential for aquaculture and may inhibit the development of aquaculture.