

§ 6247a. Use of underutilized facilities**(a) Authority**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this subchapter, the Secretary, by lease or otherwise, for any term and under such other conditions as the Secretary considers necessary or appropriate, may store in underutilized Strategic Petroleum Reserve facilities petroleum product¹ owned by a foreign government or its representative. Petroleum products stored under this section are not part of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve and may be exported without license from the United States.

(b) Protection of facilities

All agreements entered into pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall contain provisions providing for fees to fully compensate the United States for all related costs of storage and removals of petroleum products (including the proportionate cost of replacement facilities necessitated as a result of any withdrawals) incurred by the United States on behalf of the foreign government or its representative.

(c) Access to stored oil

The Secretary shall ensure that agreements to store petroleum products for foreign governments or their representatives do not impair the ability of the United States to withdraw, distribute, or sell petroleum products from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve in response to an energy emergency or to the obligations of the United States under the Agreement on an International Energy Program.

(d) Availability of funds

Funds collected through the leasing of Strategic Petroleum Reserve facilities authorized by subsection (a) of this section after September 30, 2007, shall be used by the Secretary of Energy without further appropriation for the purchase of petroleum products for the Strategic Petroleum Reserve.

(Pub. L. 94-163, title I, §168, as added Pub. L. 105-33, title IX, §9303(a), Aug. 5, 1997, 111 Stat. 676.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This subchapter, referred to in subsec. (a), was in the original “this title”, meaning title I of Pub. L. 94-163, Dec. 22, 1975, 89 Stat. 875, which is classified principally to this subchapter. For complete classification of title I to the Code, see Tables.

§ 6247b. Purchase of oil from marginal wells**(a) In general**

From amounts authorized under section 6246 of this title, in any case in which the price of oil decreases to an amount less than \$15.00 per barrel (an amount equal to the annual average well head price per barrel for all domestic crude oil), adjusted for inflation, the Secretary may purchase oil from a marginal well at \$15.00 per barrel, adjusted for inflation.

(b) Definition of marginal well

The term “marginal well” has the same meaning as the definition of “stripper well property” in section 613A(c)(6)(E) of title 26.

¹ So in original. Probably should be “products”.

(Pub. L. 94-163, title I, §169, as added Pub. L. 106-469, title III, §301(a), Nov. 9, 2000, 114 Stat. 2037.)

PART C—AUTHORITY TO CONTRACT FOR PETROLEUM PRODUCT NOT OWNED BY UNITED STATES

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior part C, consisting of section 6251 of this title, was redesignated part E of this subchapter, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 109-58.

§ 6249. Contracting for petroleum product and facilities**(a) In general**

Subject to the other provisions of this part, the Secretary may contract—

(1) for storage, in otherwise unused Strategic Petroleum Reserve facilities, of petroleum product not owned by the United States; and

(2) for storage, in storage facilities other than those of the Reserve, of petroleum product either owned or not owned by the United States.

(b) Conditions

(1) Petroleum product stored pursuant to such a contract shall, until the expiration, termination, or other conclusion of the contract, be a part of the Reserve and subject to the Secretary’s authority under part B of this subchapter.

(2) The Secretary may enter into a contract for storage of petroleum product under subsection (a) of this section only if—

(A) the Secretary determines (i) that entering into one or more contracts under such subsection would achieve benefits comparable to the acquisition of an equivalent amount of petroleum product, or an equivalent volume of storage capacity, for the Reserve under part B of this subchapter, and (ii) that, because of budgetary constraints, the acquisition of an equivalent amount of petroleum product or volume of storage space for the Reserve cannot be accomplished under part B of this subchapter; and

(B) the Secretary notifies each House of the Congress of the determination and identifies in the notification the location, type, and ownership of storage and related facilities proposed to be included, or the volume, type, and ownership of petroleum products proposed to be stored, in the Reserve, and an estimate of the proposed benefits.

(3) A contract entered into under subsection (a) of this section shall not limit the discretion of the President or the Secretary to conduct a drawdown and sale of petroleum products from the Reserve.

(4) A contract entered into under subsection (a) of this section shall include a provision that the obligation of the United States to make payments under the contract in any fiscal year is subject to the availability of appropriations.

(c) Charge for storage

The Secretary may store petroleum product pursuant to a contract entered into under subsection (a)(1) of this section with or without charge or may pay a fee for its storage.