

ties, including Indian tribes (as defined in section 450b of title 25), to carry out the technical assistance activities described in subsection (a).

**(c) Limitation**

No assistance may be provided under this section until after the date on which the entity to which that assistance is to be provided enters into a written agreement with the Secretary that includes such terms and conditions as the Secretary determines to be appropriate and in the public interest.

**(d) Prioritization**

The Secretary shall prioritize technical assistance provided under this section for Arctic deep draft ports identified by the Secretary, the Secretary of Homeland Security, and the Secretary of Defense as important for Arctic development and security.

(Pub. L. 113–121, title II, §2105, June 10, 2014, 128 Stat. 1279.)

CODIFICATION

Section was enacted as part of the Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014, and not as part of the Water Resources Development Act of 1986 which comprises this chapter.

“SECRETARY” DEFINED

Secretary means the Secretary of the Army, see section 2 of Pub. L. 113–121, set out as a note under section 2201 of this title.

SUBCHAPTER III—INLAND WATERWAY  
TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM

**§ 2251. Inland Waterways Users Board**

**(a) Establishment of Users Board**

There is hereby established an Inland Waterway Users Board (hereinafter in this section referred to as the “Users Board”) composed of the eleven members selected by the Secretary, one of whom shall be designated by the Secretary as Chairman. The members shall be selected so as to represent various regions of the country and a spectrum of the primary users and shippers utilizing the inland and intracoastal waterways for commercial purposes. Due consideration shall be given to assure a balance among the members based on the ton-mile shipments of the various categories of commodities shipped on inland waterways. The Secretary of the Army shall designate, and the Secretaries of Agriculture, Transportation, and Commerce may each designate, a representative to act as an observer of the Users Board.

**(b) Duties of Users Board**

**(1) In general**

The Users Board shall meet not less frequently than semiannually to develop and make recommendations to the Secretary and Congress regarding the inland waterways and inland harbors of the United States.

**(2) Advice and recommendations**

For commercial navigation features and components of the inland waterways and inland harbors of the United States, the Users Board shall provide—

(A) prior to the development of the budget proposal of the President for a given fiscal

year, advice and recommendations to the Secretary regarding construction and rehabilitation priorities and spending levels;

(B) advice and recommendations to Congress regarding any feasibility report for a project on the inland waterway system that has been submitted to Congress pursuant to section 2282d of this title;

(C) advice and recommendations to Congress regarding an increase in the authorized cost of those features and components;

(D) not later than 60 days after the date of the submission of the budget proposal of the President to Congress, advice and recommendations to Congress regarding construction and rehabilitation priorities and spending levels; and

(E) advice and recommendations on the development of a long-term capital investment program in accordance with subsection (d).

**(3) Project development teams**

The chairperson of the Users Board shall appoint a representative of the Users Board to serve as an advisor to the project development team for a qualifying project or the study or design of a commercial navigation feature or component of the inland waterways and inland harbors of the United States.

**(4) Independent judgment**

Any advice or recommendation made by the Users Board to the Secretary shall reflect the independent judgment of the Users Board.

**(c) Duties of Secretary**

The Secretary shall—

(1) communicate not less frequently than once each quarter to the Users Board the status of the study, design, or construction of all commercial navigation features or components of the inland waterways or inland harbors of the United States; and

(2) submit to the Users Board a courtesy copy of all completed feasibility reports relating to a commercial navigation feature or component of the inland waterways or inland harbors of the United States.

**(d) Capital investment program**

**(1) In general**

Not later than 1 year after June 10, 2014, the Secretary, in coordination with the Users Board, shall develop and submit to Congress a report describing a 20-year program for making capital investments on the inland and intracoastal waterways based on the application of objective, national project selection prioritization criteria.

**(2) Consideration**

In developing the program under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall take into consideration the 20-year capital investment strategy contained in the Inland Marine Transportation System (IMTS) Capital Projects Business Model, Final Report published on April 13, 2010, as approved by the Users Board.

**(3) Criteria**

In developing the plan and prioritization criteria under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall ensure, to the maximum extent practicable,

that investments made under the 20-year program described in paragraph (1)—

(A) are made in all geographical areas of the inland waterways system; and

(B) ensure efficient funding of inland waterways projects.

**(4) Strategic review and update**

Not later than 5 years after June 10, 2014, and not less frequently than once every 5 years thereafter, the Secretary, in coordination with the Users Board, shall—

(A) submit to Congress and make publicly available a strategic review of the 20-year program in effect under this subsection, which shall identify and explain any changes to the project-specific recommendations contained in the previous 20-year program (including any changes to the prioritization criteria used to develop the updated recommendations); and

(B) make revisions to the program, as appropriate.

**(e) Project management plans**

The chairperson of the Users Board and the project development team member appointed by the chairperson under subsection (b)(3) may sign the project management plan for the qualifying project or the study or design of a commercial navigation feature or component of the inland waterways and inland harbors of the United States.

**(f) Administration**

**(1) In general**

The Users Board shall be subject to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.), other than section 14, and, with the consent of the appropriate agency head, the Users Board may use the facilities and services of any Federal agency.

**(2) Members not considered special Government employees**

For the purposes of complying with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.), the members of the Users Board shall not be considered special Government employees (as defined in section 202 of title 18).

**(3) Travel expenses**

Non-Federal members of the Users Board while engaged in the performance of their duties away from their homes or regular places of business, may be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, as authorized by section 5703 of title 5.

(Pub. L. 99-662, title III, §302, Nov. 17, 1986, 100 Stat. 4111; Pub. L. 106-109, §8(a), Nov. 24, 1999, 113 Stat. 1495; Pub. L. 113-121, title II, §2002(d), June 10, 2014, 128 Stat. 1262.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Federal Advisory Committee Act, referred to in subsec. (f)(1) and (2), is Pub. L. 92-463, Oct. 6, 1972, 86 Stat. 770, which is set out in the Appendix to Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

AMENDMENTS

2014—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 113-121, §2002(d)(1), added subsec. (b) and struck out former subsec. (b). Prior to amendment, text read as follows: “The Users Board

shall meet at least semi-annually to develop and make recommendations to the Secretary regarding construction and rehabilitation priorities and spending levels on the commercial navigational features and components of the inland waterways and inland harbors of the United States for the following fiscal years. Any advice or recommendation made by the Users Board to the Secretary shall reflect the independent judgment of the Users Board. Notwithstanding section 3003 of Public Law 104-66 (31 U.S.C. 1113 note; 109 Stat. 734), the Users Board shall, by December 31, 1987, and annually thereafter file such recommendations with the Secretary and with the Congress.”

Subsecs. (c) to (f). Pub. L. 113-121, §2002(d)(2), added subsecs. (c) to (f) and struck out former subsec. (c). Prior to amendment, text read as follows: “The Users Board shall be subject to the Federal Advisory Committee Act, other than section 14, and, with the consent of the appropriate agency head, the Users Board may use the facilities and services of any Federal agency. Non-Federal members of the Users Board while engaged in the performance of their duties away from their homes or regular places of business, may be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, as authorized by section 5703 of title 5.”

1999—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 106-109, in last sentence, substituted “Notwithstanding section 3003 of Public Law 104-66 (31 U.S.C. 1113 note; 109 Stat. 734), the” for “The”.

**§ 2252. Project delivery process reforms**

**(a) Requirements for qualifying projects**

With respect to each qualifying project, the Secretary shall require—

(1) for each project manager, that—

(A) the project manager have formal project management training and certification; and

(B) the project manager be assigned from among personnel certified by the Chief of Engineers; and

(2) for an applicable cost estimation, that—

(A) the Secretary utilize a risk-based cost estimate with a confidence level of at least 80 percent; and

(B) the cost estimate be developed—

(i) for a qualifying project that requires an increase in the authorized amount in accordance with section 2280 of this title, during the preparation of a post-authorization change report or other similar decision document;

(ii) for a qualifying project for which the first construction contract has not been awarded, prior to the award of the first construction contract;

(iii) for a qualifying project without a completed feasibility report in accordance with section 2282 of this title, prior to the completion of such a report; and

(iv) for a qualifying project with a completed feasibility report in accordance with section 2282 of this title that has not yet been authorized, during design for the qualifying project.

**(b) Additional project delivery process reforms**

Not later than 18 months after June 10, 2014, the Secretary shall—

(1) establish a system to identify and apply on a continuing basis best management practices from prior or ongoing qualifying projects to improve the likelihood of on-time and on-budget completion of qualifying projects;