

§ 6949. Rural communities assistance**(a) In general**

The Administrator shall make grants to States to provide assistance to municipalities with a population of five thousand or less, or counties with a population of ten thousand or less or less than twenty persons per square mile and not within a metropolitan area, for solid waste management facilities (including equipment) necessary to meet the requirements of section 6945 of this title or restrictions on open burning or other requirements arising under the Clean Air Act [42 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.] or the Federal Water Pollution Control Act [33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.]. Such assistance shall only be available—

(1) to any municipality or county which could not feasibly be included in a solid waste management system or facility serving an urbanized, multijurisdictional area because of its distance from such systems;

(2) where existing or planned solid waste management services or facilities are unavailable or insufficient to comply with the requirements of section 6945 of this title; and

(3) for systems which are certified by the State to be consistent with any plans or programs established under any State or areawide planning process.

(b) Allotment

The Administrator shall allot the sums appropriated to carry out this section in any fiscal year among the States in accordance with regulations promulgated by him on the basis of the average of the ratio which the population of rural areas of each State bears to the total population of rural areas of all the States, the ratio which the population of counties in each State having less than twenty persons per square mile bears to the total population of such counties in all the States, and the ratio which the population of such low-density counties in each State having 33 per centum or more of all families with incomes not in excess of 125 per centum of the poverty level bears to the total population of such counties in all the States.

(c) Limit

The amount of any grant under this section shall not exceed 75 per centum of the costs of the project. No assistance under this section shall be available for the acquisition of land or interests in land.

(d) Authorization of appropriations

There are authorized to be appropriated \$25,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 1978 and 1979 to carry out this section. There are authorized to be appropriated \$10,000,000 for the fiscal year 1980 and \$15,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 1981 and 1982 to carry out this section.

(e) Additional appropriations**(1) In general**

There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section for the Denali Commission to provide assistance to municipalities in the State of Alaska \$1,500,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

(2) Administration

For the purpose of carrying out this subsection, the Denali Commission shall—

(A) be considered a State; and

(B) comply with all other requirements and limitations of this section.

(Pub. L. 89-272, title II, § 4009, as added Pub. L. 94-580, § 2, Oct. 21, 1976, 90 Stat. 2819; amended Pub. L. 96-482, § 31(e), Oct. 21, 1980, 94 Stat. 2353; Pub. L. 110-234, title VI, § 6009(b), May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1163; Pub. L. 110-246, § 4(a), title VI, § 6009(b), June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 1924.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Clean Air Act, referred to in subsec. (a), is act July 14, 1955, ch. 360, 69 Stat. 322, as amended, which is classified generally to chapter 85 (§ 7401 et seq.) of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 7401 of this title and Tables.

The Federal Water Pollution Control Act, referred to in subsec. (a), is act June 30, 1948, ch. 758, as amended generally by Pub. L. 92-500, § 2, Oct. 18, 1972, 86 Stat. 816, which is classified generally to chapter 26 (§ 1251 et seq.) of title 33, Navigation and Navigable Waters. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short title note set out under section 1251 of title 33 and Tables.

CODIFICATION

Pub. L. 110-234 and Pub. L. 110-246 made identical amendments to this section. The amendments by Pub. L. 110-234 were repealed by section 4(a) of Pub. L. 110-246.

AMENDMENTS

2008—Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 110-246, § 6009(b), added subsec. (e).

1980—Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 96-482 authorized appropriation of \$10,000,000, \$15,000,000, and \$15,000,000 for fiscal years 1980, 1981, 1982, respectively.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2008 AMENDMENT

Amendment of this section and repeal of Pub. L. 110-234 by Pub. L. 110-246 effective May 22, 2008, the date of enactment of Pub. L. 110-234, see section 4 of Pub. L. 110-246, set out as an Effective Date note under section 8701 of Title 7, Agriculture.

TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

For transfer of certain enforcement functions of Administrator or other official of Environmental Protection Agency under this chapter to Federal Inspector, Office of Federal Inspector for the Alaska Natural Gas Transportation System, and subsequent transfer to Secretary of Energy, then to Federal Coordinator for Alaska Natural Gas Transportation Projects, see note set out under section 6903 of this title.

§ 6949a. Adequacy of certain guidelines and criteria**(a) Study**

The Administrator shall conduct a study of the extent to which the guidelines and criteria under this chapter (other than guidelines and criteria for facilities to which subchapter III of this chapter applies) which are applicable to solid waste management and disposal facilities, including, but not limited to landfills and surface impoundments, are adequate to protect human health and the environment from ground water contamination. Such study shall include a detailed assessment of the degree to which the criteria under section 6907(a) of this title and the criteria under section 6944 of this title regarding monitoring, prevention of contamination, and remedial action are adequate to pro-

tect ground water and shall also include recommendation with respect to any additional enforcement authorities which the Administrator, in consultation with the Attorney General, deems necessary for such purposes.

(b) Report

Not later than thirty-six months after November 8, 1984, the Administrator shall submit a report to the Congress setting forth the results of the study required under this section, together with any recommendations made by the Administrator on the basis of such study.

(c) Revisions of guidelines and criteria

(1) In general

Not later than March 31, 1988, the Administrator shall promulgate revisions of the criteria promulgated under paragraph (1) of section 6944(a) of this title and under section 6907(a)(3) of this title for facilities that may receive hazardous household wastes or hazardous wastes from small quantity generators under section 6921(d) of this title. The criteria shall be those necessary to protect human health and the environment and may take into account the practicable capability of such facilities. At a minimum such revisions for facilities potentially receiving such wastes should require ground water monitoring as necessary to detect contamination, establish criteria for the acceptable location of new or existing facilities, and provide for corrective action as appropriate.

(2) Additional revisions

Subject to paragraph (3), the requirements of the criteria described in paragraph (1) relating to ground water monitoring shall not apply to an owner or operator of a new municipal solid waste landfill unit, an existing municipal solid waste landfill unit, or a lateral expansion of a municipal solid waste landfill unit, that disposes of less than 20 tons of municipal solid waste daily, based on an annual average, if—

(A) there is no evidence of ground water contamination from the municipal solid waste landfill unit or expansion; and

(B) the municipal solid waste landfill unit or expansion serves—

(i) a community that experiences an annual interruption of at least 3 consecutive months of surface transportation that prevents access to a regional waste management facility; or

(ii) a community that has no practicable waste management alternative and the landfill unit is located in an area that annually receives less than or equal to 25 inches of precipitation.

(3) Protection of ground water resources

(A) Monitoring requirement

A State may require ground water monitoring of a solid waste landfill unit that would otherwise be exempt under paragraph (2) if necessary to protect ground water resources and ensure compliance with a State ground water protection plan, where applicable.

(B) Methods

If a State requires ground water monitoring of a solid waste landfill unit under subparagraph (A), the State may allow the use of a method other than the use of ground water monitoring wells to detect a release of contamination from the unit.

(C) Corrective action

If a State finds a release from a solid waste landfill unit, the State shall require corrective action as appropriate.

(4) No-migration exemption

(A) In general

Ground water monitoring requirements may be suspended by the Director of an approved State for a landfill operator if the operator demonstrates that there is no potential for migration of hazardous constituents from the unit to the uppermost aquifer during the active life of the unit and the post-closure care period.

(B) Certification

A demonstration under subparagraph (A) shall be certified by a qualified ground-water scientist and approved by the Director of an approved State.

(C) Guidance

Not later than 6 months after March 26, 1996, the Administrator shall issue a guidance document to facilitate small community use of the no migration¹ exemption under this paragraph.

(5) Alaska Native villages

Upon certification by the Governor of the State of Alaska that application of the requirements described in paragraph (1) to a solid waste landfill unit of a Native village (as defined in section 1602 of title 43) or unit that is located in or near a small, remote Alaska village would be infeasible, or would not be cost-effective, or is otherwise inappropriate because of the remote location of the unit, the State may exempt the unit from some or all of those requirements. This paragraph shall apply only to solid waste landfill units that dispose of less than 20 tons of municipal solid waste daily, based on an annual average.

(6) Further revisions of guidelines and criteria

Recognizing the unique circumstances of small communities, the Administrator shall, not later than two years after March 26, 1996, promulgate revisions to the guidelines and criteria promulgated under this subchapter to provide additional flexibility to approved States to allow landfills that receive 20 tons or less of municipal solid waste per day, based on an annual average, to use alternative frequencies of daily cover application, frequencies of methane gas monitoring, infiltration layers for final cover, and means for demonstrating financial assurance: *Provided*, That such alternative requirements take into account climatic and hydrogeologic conditions and are protective of human health and environment.

¹ So in original. Probably should be "no-migration".

(Pub. L. 89-272, title II, §4010, as added Pub. L. 98-616, title III, §302(a)(1), Nov. 8, 1984, 98 Stat. 3267; amended Pub. L. 104-119, §3(a), Mar. 26, 1996, 110 Stat. 831.)

AMENDMENTS

1996—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 104-119 designated existing provisions as par. (1), inserted heading, and added pars. (2) to (6).

REINSTATEMENT OF REGULATORY EXEMPTION

Pub. L. 104-119, §3(b), Mar. 26, 1996, 110 Stat. 833, provided that: "It is the intent of section 4010(c)(2) of the Solid Waste Disposal Act [42 U.S.C. 6949a(c)(2)], as added by subsection (a), to immediately reinstate subpart E of part 258 of title 40, Code of Federal Regulations, as added by the final rule published at 56 Federal Register 50798 on October 9, 1991."

SUBCHAPTER V—DUTIES OF SECRETARY OF COMMERCE IN RESOURCE AND RECOVERY

§ 6951. Functions

The Secretary of Commerce shall encourage greater commercialization of proven resource recovery technology by providing—

- (1) accurate specifications for recovered materials;
- (2) stimulation of development of markets for recovered materials;
- (3) promotion of proven technology; and
- (4) a forum for the exchange of technical and economic data relating to resource recovery facilities.

(Pub. L. 89-272, title II, §5001, as added Pub. L. 94-580, §2, Oct. 21, 1976, 90 Stat. 2820.)

§ 6952. Development of specifications for secondary materials

The Secretary of Commerce, acting through the National Institute of Standards and Technology, and in conjunction with national standards-setting organizations in resource recovery, shall, after public hearings, and not later than two years after September 1, 1979, publish guidelines for the development of specifications for the classification of materials recovered from waste which were destined for disposal. The specifications shall pertain to the physical and chemical properties and characteristics of such materials with regard to their use in replacing virgin materials in various industrial, commercial, and governmental uses. In establishing such guidelines the Secretary shall also, to the extent feasible, provide such information as may be necessary to assist Federal agencies with procurement of items containing recovered materials. The Secretary shall continue to cooperate with national standards-setting organizations, as may be necessary, to encourage the publication, promulgation and updating of standards for recovered materials and for the use of recovered materials in various industrial, commercial, and governmental uses.

(Pub. L. 89-272, title II, §5002, as added Pub. L. 94-580, §2, Oct. 21, 1976, 90 Stat. 2820; amended Pub. L. 96-482, §21(a), Oct. 21, 1980, 94 Stat. 2346; Pub. L. 100-418, title V, §5115(c), Aug. 23, 1988, 102 Stat. 1433.)

AMENDMENTS

1988—Pub. L. 100-418 substituted "National Institute of Standards and Technology" for "National Bureau of Standards".

1980—Pub. L. 96-482 substituted "September 1, 1979" for "October 21, 1976".

§ 6953. Development of markets for recovered materials

The Secretary of Commerce shall within two years after September 1, 1979, take such actions as may be necessary to—

- (1) identify the geographical location of existing or potential markets for recovered materials;
- (2) identify the economic and technical barriers to the use of recovered materials; and
- (3) encourage the development of new uses for recovered materials.

(Pub. L. 89-272, title II, §5003, as added Pub. L. 94-580, §2, Oct. 21, 1976, 90 Stat. 2821; amended Pub. L. 96-482, §21(b), Oct. 21, 1980, 94 Stat. 2346.)

AMENDMENTS

1980—Pub. L. 96-482 substituted "September 1, 1979" for "October 21, 1976".

§ 6954. Technology promotion

The Secretary of Commerce is authorized to evaluate the commercial feasibility of resource recovery facilities and to publish the results of such evaluation, and to develop a data base for purposes of assisting persons in choosing such a system.

(Pub. L. 89-272, title II, §5004, as added Pub. L. 94-580, §2, Oct. 21, 1976, 90 Stat. 2821.)

§ 6955. Marketing policies, establishment; non-discrimination requirement

In establishing any policies which may affect the development of new markets for recovered materials and in making any determination concerning whether or not to impose monitoring or other controls on any marketing or transfer of recovered materials, the Secretary of Commerce may consider whether to establish the same or similar policies or impose the same or similar monitoring or other controls on virgin materials.

(Pub. L. 89-272, title II, §5005, as added Pub. L. 96-482, §21(c)(1), Oct. 21, 1980, 94 Stat. 2346.)

§ 6956. Authorization of appropriations

There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Commerce \$5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 1980, 1981, and 1982 and \$1,500,000 for each of the fiscal years 1985 through 1988 to carry out the purposes of this subchapter.

(Pub. L. 89-272, title II, §5006, as added Pub. L. 96-482, §31(f)(1), Oct. 21, 1980, 94 Stat. 2353; amended Pub. L. 98-616, §2(h), Nov. 8, 1984, 98 Stat. 3223.)

AMENDMENTS

1984—Pub. L. 98-616 authorized appropriation of \$1,500,000 for each of fiscal years 1985 through 1988.