

SUBCHAPTER IV—ADMINISTRATIVE
PROVISIONS

§ 2641. Voluntary guidelines

The Secretary may prescribe voluntary guidelines respecting the standards established by sections 2621(d) and 2623(b) of this title. Such guidelines may not expand the scope or legal effect of such standards or establish additional standards respecting electric utility rates.

(Pub. L. 95–617, title I, §131, Nov. 9, 1978, 92 Stat. 3131.)

§ 2642. Responsibilities of Secretary

(a) Authority

The Secretary may periodically notify the State regulatory authorities, and electric utilities identified pursuant to section 2612(c) of this title, of—

- (1) load management techniques and the results of studies and experiments concerning load management techniques;
- (2) developments and innovations in electric utility ratemaking throughout the United States, including the results of studies and experiments in rate structure and rate reform;
- (3) methods for determining cost of service;
- (4) any other data or information which the Secretary determines would assist such authorities and utilities in carrying out the provisions of this chapter; and
- (5) technologies, techniques, and rate-making methods related to advanced metering and communications and the use of these technologies, techniques and methods in demand response programs.

(b) Technical assistance

The Secretary may provide such technical assistance as he determines appropriate to assist the State regulatory authorities in carrying out their responsibilities under subchapter II and as is requested by any State regulatory authority relating to the standards established by subchapter II.

(c) Appropriations

There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out the purposes of subsection (b) not to exceed \$1,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 1979 and 1980.

(d) Demand response

The Secretary shall be responsible for—

- (1) educating consumers on the availability, advantages, and benefits of advanced metering and communications technologies, including the funding of demonstration or pilot projects;
- (2) working with States, utilities, other energy providers and advanced metering and communications experts to identify and address barriers to the adoption of demand response programs; and
- (3) not later than 180 days after August 8, 2005, providing Congress with a report that identifies and quantifies the national benefits of demand response and makes a recommendation on achieving specific levels of such benefits by January 1, 2007.

(Pub. L. 95–617, title I, §132, Nov. 9, 1978, 92 Stat. 3131; Pub. L. 109–58, title XII, §1252(c), (d), Aug. 8, 2005, 119 Stat. 965.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in subsec. (a)(4), was in the original “this title”, meaning title I (§101 et seq.) of Pub. L. 95–617, Nov. 9, 1978, 92 Stat. 3120, which enacted subchapters I to IV of this chapter and section 6808 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare, and amended sections 6802 to 6807 of Title 42. For complete classification of title I to the Code, see Tables.

AMENDMENTS

2005—Subsec. (a)(5). Pub. L. 109–58, §1252(c), added par. (5).

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 109–58, §1252(d), added subsec. (d).

DEMAND RESPONSE ASSISTANCE

Pub. L. 109–58, title XII, §1252(e), (f), Aug. 8, 2005, 119 Stat. 965, 966, provided that:

“(e) DEMAND RESPONSE AND REGIONAL COORDINATION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—It is the policy of the United States to encourage States to coordinate, on a regional basis, State energy policies to provide reliable and affordable demand response services to the public.

“(2) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary [of Energy] shall provide technical assistance to States and regional organizations formed by two or more States to assist them in—

“(A) identifying the areas with the greatest demand response potential;

“(B) identifying and resolving problems in transmission and distribution networks, including through the use of demand response;

“(C) developing plans and programs to use demand response to respond to peak demand or emergency needs; and

“(D) identifying specific measures consumers can take to participate in these demand response programs.

“(3) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 [Aug. 8, 2005], the [Federal Energy Regulatory] Commission shall prepare and publish an annual report, by appropriate region, that assesses demand response resources, including those available from all consumer classes, and which identifies and reviews—

“(A) saturation and penetration rate of advanced meters and communications technologies, devices and systems;

“(B) existing demand response programs and time-based rate programs;

“(C) the annual resource contribution of demand resources;

“(D) the potential for demand response as a quantifiable, reliable resource for regional planning purposes;

“(E) steps taken to ensure that, in regional transmission planning and operations, demand resources are provided equitable treatment as a quantifiable, reliable resource relative to the resource obligations of any load-serving entity, transmission provider, or transmitting party; and

“(F) regulatory barriers to improve customer participation in demand response, peak reduction and critical period pricing programs.

“(f) FEDERAL ENCOURAGEMENT OF DEMAND RESPONSE DEVICES.—It is the policy of the United States that time-based pricing and other forms of demand response, whereby electricity customers are provided with electricity price signals and the ability to benefit by responding to them, shall be encouraged, the deployment of such technology and devices that enable electricity customers to participate in such pricing and demand response systems shall be facilitated, and unnecessary barriers to demand response participation in energy, capacity and ancillary service markets shall be eliminated. It is further the policy of the United States that the benefits of such demand response that accrue to those not deploying such technology and devices, but

who are part of the same regional electricity entity, shall be recognized.”

§ 2643. Gathering information on costs of service

(a) Information required to be gathered

Each electric utility shall periodically gather information under such rules (promulgated by the Commission) as the Commission determines necessary to allow determination of the costs associated with providing electric service. For purposes of this section, and for purposes of any consideration and determination respecting the standard established by section 2621(d)(2) of this title, such costs shall be separated, to the maximum extent practicable, into the following components: customer cost component, demand cost component, and energy cost component. Rules under this subsection shall include requirements for the gathering of the following information with respect to each electric utility—

(1) the costs of serving each electric consumer class, including costs of serving different consumption patterns within such class, based on voltage level, time of use, and other appropriate factors;

(2) daily kilowatt demand load curves for all electric consumer classes combined representative of daily and seasonal differences in demand, and daily kilowatt demand load curves for each electric consumer class for which there is a separate rate, representative of daily and seasonal differences in demand;

(3) annual capital, operating, and maintenance costs—

(A) for transmission and distribution services, and

(B) for each type of generating unit; and

(4) costs of purchased power, including representative daily and seasonal differences in the amount of such costs.

Such rules shall provide that information required to be gathered under this section shall be presented in such categories and such detail as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this section.

(b) Commission rules

The Commission shall, within 180 days after November 9, 1978, by rule, prescribe the methods, procedure, and format to be used by electric utilities in gathering the information described in this section. Such rules may provide for the exemption by the Commission of an electric utility or class of electric utilities from gathering all or part of such information, in cases where such utility or utilities show and the Commission finds, after public notice and opportunity for the presentation of written data, views, and arguments, that gathering such information is not likely to carry out the purposes of this section. The Commission shall periodically review such findings and may revise such rules.

(c) Filing and publication

Not later than two years after November 9, 1978, and periodically, but not less frequently than every two years thereafter, each electric utility shall file with—

(1) the Commission, and

(2) any State regulatory authority which has ratemaking authority for such utility,

the information gathered pursuant to this section and make such information available to the public in such form and manner as the Commission shall prescribe. In addition, at the time of application for, or proposal of, any rate increase, each electric utility shall make such information available to the public in such form and manner as the Commission shall prescribe. The two-year period after November 9, 1978, specified in this subsection may be extended by the Commission for a reasonable additional period in the case of any electric utility for good cause shown.

(d) Enforcement

For purposes of enforcement, any violation of a requirement of this section shall be treated as a violation of a provision of the Energy Supply and Environmental Coordination Act of 1974 [15 U.S.C. 791 et seq.] enforceable under section 12 of such Act [15 U.S.C. 797] (notwithstanding any expiration date in such Act) except that in applying the provisions of such section 12 any reference to the Federal Energy Administrator shall be treated as a reference to the Commission.

(Pub. L. 95-617, title I, §133, Nov. 9, 1978, 92 Stat. 3132.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Energy Supply and Environmental Coordination Act of 1974, referred to in subsec. (d), is Pub. L. 93-319, June 22, 1974, 88 Stat. 246, as amended, which is classified principally to chapter 16C (§791 et seq.) of Title 15, Commerce and Trade. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 791 of Title 15 and Tables.

§ 2644. Relationship to other authority

Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to limit or affect any authority of the Secretary or the Commission under any other provision of law.

(Pub. L. 95-617, title I, §134, Nov. 9, 1978, 92 Stat. 3133.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in text, was in the original “this title”, meaning title I (§101 et seq.) of Pub. L. 95-617, Nov. 9, 1978, 92 Stat. 3120, which enacted subchapters I to IV of this chapter and section 6808 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare, and amended sections 6802 to 6807 of Title 42. For complete classification of title I to the Code, see Tables.

§ 2645. Utility regulatory institute

(a) Matching grants

The Secretary may make grants under this section to an institute established by the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners to enable such institute to—

(1) conduct research on electric and gas utility regulatory policy issues,

(2) develop data processing and retrieval methods for electric and gas utility rate-making, and

(3) perform other functions directly related to assisting State regulatory authorities in carrying out their functions under State law and this Act.

(b) Federal share

Grants under this section shall not be used to provide more than the following percentages of