

### § 1810. Authorization of appropriations

There are hereby authorized to be appropriated to carry out the provisions of this chapter a sum not to exceed \$500,000 for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1985, and such sums as may be necessary thereafter: *Provided*, That the authority provided for in this chapter shall expire on September 30, 1992, unless otherwise authorized by Congress.

(Pub. L. 98-373, title II, §211, July 31, 1984, 98 Stat. 1254; Pub. L. 100-418, title V, §5184, Aug. 23, 1988, 102 Stat. 1454.)

#### AMENDMENTS

1988—Pub. L. 100-418 substituted “1992” for “1990”.

### § 1811. “Materials” defined

As used in this chapter, the term “materials” has the meaning given it by section 1601(b) of this title.

(Pub. L. 98-373, title II, §212, July 31, 1984, 98 Stat. 1254.)

## CHAPTER 31—MARINE MINERAL RESOURCES RESEARCH

Sec.	
1901.	Definitions.
1902.	Research program.
1903.	Grants, contracts, and cooperative agreements.
1904.	Marine mineral research centers.
1905.	Authorization of appropriations.

### § 1901. Definitions

In this chapter:

(1) The term “contract” has the same meaning as “procurement contract” in section 6303 of title 31.

(2) The term “cooperative agreement” has the same meaning as in section 6305 of title 31.

(3) The term “eligible entity” means—

(A) a research or educational entity chartered or incorporated under Federal or State law;

(B) an individual who is a United States citizen; or

(C) a State or regional agency.

(4) The term “grant” has the same meaning as “grant agreement” in section 6304 of title 31.

(5) The term “in-kind contribution” means a noncash contribution provided by a non-Federal entity that directly benefits and is related to a specific project or program. An in-kind contribution may include real property, equipment, supplies, other expendable property, goods, and services.

(6) The term “marine mineral resource” means—

(A) sand and aggregates;

(B) placers;

(C) phosphates;

(D) manganese nodules;

(E) cobalt crusts;

(F) metal sulfides;

(G) for purposes of this section and sections 1902 through 1905 of this title only, methane hydrate; and

(H) other marine resources that are not—

(i) oil and gas;

(ii) fisheries; or

(iii) marine mammals.

(7) The term “methane hydrate” means—

(A) a methane clathrate that is in the form of a methane-water ice-like crystalline material and is stable and occurs naturally in deep-ocean and permafrost areas; and

(B) other natural gas hydrates found in association with deep-ocean and permafrost deposits of methane hydrate.

(8) The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.

(Pub. L. 91-631, title II, §201, as added Pub. L. 104-325, §2(3), Oct. 19, 1996, 110 Stat. 3994; amended Pub. L. 106-193, §4, May 2, 2000, 114 Stat. 236.)

#### AMENDMENTS

2000—Par. (6)(G), (H). Pub. L. 106-193, §4(1), added subpar. (G) and redesignated former subpar. (G) as (H).

Pars. (7), (8). Pub. L. 106-193, §4(2), (3), added par. (7) and redesignated former par. (7) as (8).

#### SHORT TITLE

Pub. L. 104-325, §1, Oct. 19, 1996, 110 Stat. 3994, provided that: “This Act [enacting this chapter] may be cited as the ‘Marine Mineral Resources Research Act of 1996.’”

### § 1902. Research program

#### (a) In general

The Secretary shall establish and carry out a program of research on marine mineral resources.

#### (b) Program goal

The goal of the program shall be to—

(1) promote research, identification, assessment, and exploration of marine mineral resources in an environmentally responsible manner;

(2) assist in developing domestic technologies required for efficient and environmentally sound development of marine mineral resources;

(3) coordinate and promote the use of technologies developed with Federal assistance, and the use of available Federal assets, for research, identification, assessment, exploration, and development of marine mineral resources; and

(4) encourage academia and industry to conduct basic and applied research, on a joint basis, through grants, cooperative agreements, or contracts with the Federal Government.

#### (c) Responsibilities of Secretary

In carrying out the program, the Secretary shall—

(1) promote and coordinate partnerships between industry, government, and academia to research, identify, assess, and explore marine mineral resources in an environmentally sound manner;

(2) undertake programs to develop the basic information necessary to the long-term national interest in marine mineral resources (including seabed mapping) and to ensure that data and information are accessible and widely disseminated as needed and appropriate;

(3) identify, and promote cooperation among agency programs that are developing, tech-