

(Pub. L. 91-631, title II, §205, as added Pub. L. 104-325, §2(3), Oct. 19, 1996, 110 Stat. 3999.)

**CHAPTER 32—METHANE HYDRATE  
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT**

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**CODIFICATION**

This chapter is comprised of Pub. L. 106-193, as amended generally by Pub. L. 109-58, title IX, §968(a), Aug. 8, 2005, 119 Stat. 894, known as the Methane Hydrate Research and Development Act of 2000, which was formerly set out as a note under section 1902 of this title.

**§ 2001. Findings**

Congress finds that—

(1) in order to promote energy independence and meet the increasing demand for energy, the United States will require a diversified portfolio of substantially increased quantities of electricity, natural gas, and transportation fuels;

(2) according to the report submitted to Congress by the National Research Council entitled “Charting the Future of Methane Hydrate Research in the United States”, the total United States resources of gas hydrates have been estimated to be on the order of 200,000 trillion cubic feet;

(3) according to the report of the National Commission on Energy Policy entitled “Ending the Energy Stalemate—A Bipartisan Strategy to Meet America’s Energy Challenge”, and dated December 2004, the United States may be endowed with over one-fourth of the methane hydrate deposits in the world;

(4) according to the Energy Information Administration, a shortfall in natural gas supply from conventional and unconventional sources is expected to occur in or about 2020; and

(5) the National Academy of Sciences states that methane hydrate may have the potential to alleviate the projected shortfall in the natural gas supply.

(Pub. L. 106-193, §2, as added Pub. L. 109-58, title IX, §968(a), Aug. 8, 2005, 119 Stat. 894.)

**PRIOR PROVISIONS**

A prior section 2 of Pub. L. 106-193 was set out in a note under section 1902 of this title prior to the general amendment of Pub. L. 106-193 by Pub. L. 109-58.

**SHORT TITLE**

Pub. L. 106-193, §1, as added by Pub. L. 109-58, title IX, §968(a), Aug. 8, 2005, 119 Stat. 894, provided that: “This Act [enacting this chapter] may be cited as the ‘Methane Hydrate Research and Development Act of 2000’.”

**RECLASSIFICATION**

Pub. L. 109-58, title IX, §968(b), Aug. 8, 2005, 119 Stat. 898, provided that: “The Law Revision Counsel shall reclassify the Methane Hydrate Research and Development Act of 2000 (30 U.S.C. 1902 note; Public Law 106-193) to a new chapter at the end of title 30, United States Code.”

**§ 2002. Definitions**

In this chapter:

**(1) Contract**

The term “contract” means a procurement contract within the meaning of section 6303 of title 31.

**(2) Cooperative agreement**

The term “cooperative agreement” means a cooperative agreement within the meaning of section 6305 of title 31.

**(3) Director**

The term “Director” means the Director of the National Science Foundation.

**(4) Grant**

The term “grant” means a grant awarded under a grant agreement (within the meaning of section 6304 of title 31).

**(5) Industrial enterprise**

The term “industrial enterprise” means a private, nongovernmental enterprise that has an expertise or capability that relates to methane hydrate research and development.

**(6) Institution of higher education**

The term “institution of higher education” means an institution of higher education (as defined in section 1002 of title 20).

**(7) Secretary**

The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Energy, acting through the Assistant Secretary for Fossil Energy.

**(8) Secretary of Commerce**

The term “Secretary of Commerce” means the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

**(9) Secretary of Defense**

The term “Secretary of Defense” means the Secretary of Defense, acting through the Secretary of the Navy.

**(10) Secretary of the Interior**

The term “Secretary of the Interior” means the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Director of the United States Geological Survey, the Director of the Bureau of Land Management, and the Director of the Minerals Management Service.

(Pub. L. 106-193, §3, as added Pub. L. 109-58, title IX, §968(a), Aug. 8, 2005, 119 Stat. 895.)

**PRIOR PROVISIONS**

A prior section 3 of Pub. L. 106-193 was set out in a note under section 1902 of this title prior to the general amendment of Pub. L. 106-193 by Pub. L. 109-58.

**TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS**

The Minerals Management Service was abolished and functions divided among the Office of Natural Resources Revenue, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, and the Bureau of Safety and Environmental Enforcement. See Secretary of the Interior Orders No. 3299 of May 19, 2010, and No. 3302 of June 18, 2010, and chapters II, V, and XII of title 30, Code of Federal Regulations, as revised by final rules of the Department of the Interior at 75 F.R. 61051 and 76 F.R. 64432.