

1 of the Bioenergy Research Centers of the Office of Science of the Department.

(d) Authorization of appropriations

There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to make grants described in subsection (b) \$50,000,000 for fiscal year 2008, to remain available until expended.

(Pub. L. 110-140, title II, §230, Dec. 19, 2007, 121 Stat. 1536.)

§ 17035. University based research and development grant program

(a) Establishment

The Secretary shall establish a competitive grant program, in a geographically diverse manner, for projects submitted for consideration by institutions of higher education to conduct research and development of renewable energy technologies. Each grant made shall not exceed \$2,000,000.

(b) Eligibility

Priority shall be given to institutions of higher education with—

- (1) established programs of research in renewable energy;
- (2) locations that are low income or outside of an urbanized area;
- (3) a joint venture with an Indian tribe; and
- (4) proximity to trees dying of disease or insect infestation as a source of woody biomass.

(c) Authorization of appropriations

There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary \$25,000,000 for carrying out this section.

(d) Definitions

In this section:

(1) Indian tribe

The term “Indian tribe” has the meaning as defined in section 15823(c) of this title.

(2) Renewable energy

The term “renewable energy” has the meaning as defined in section 16181 of this title.

(3) Urbanized area

The term “urbanized area” has the meaning as defined by the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

(Pub. L. 110-140, title II, §234, Dec. 19, 2007, 121 Stat. 1538.)

PART C—BIOFUELS INFRASTRUCTURE

§ 17051. Renewable fuel dispenser requirements

(a) Market penetration reports

The Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Transportation, shall determine and report to Congress annually on the market penetration for flexible-fuel vehicles in use within geographic regions to be established by the Secretary.

(b) Dispenser feasibility study

Not later than 24 months after December 19, 2007, the Secretary, in consultation with the Department of Transportation, shall report to the Congress on the feasibility of requiring motor fuel retailers to install E-85 compatible dispens-

ers and related systems at retail fuel facilities in regions where flexible-fuel vehicle market penetration has reached 15 percent of motor vehicles. In conducting such study, the Secretary shall consider and report on the following factors:

(1) The commercial availability of E-85 fuel and the number of competing E-85 wholesale suppliers in a given region.

(2) The level of financial assistance provided on an annual basis by the Federal Government, State governments, and nonprofit entities for the installation of E-85 compatible infrastructure.

(3) The number of retailers whose retail locations are unable to support more than 2 underground storage tank dispensers.

(4) The expense incurred by retailers in the installation and sale of E-85 compatible dispensers and related systems and any potential effects on the price of motor vehicle fuel.

(Pub. L. 110-140, title II, §242, Dec. 19, 2007, 121 Stat. 1540.)

§ 17052. Renewable fuel infrastructure grants

(a) Definition of renewable fuel blend

For purposes of this section, the term “renewable fuel blend” means a gasoline blend that contains not less than 11 percent, and not more than 85 percent, renewable fuel or diesel fuel that contains at least 10 percent renewable fuel.

(b) Infrastructure development grants

(1) Establishment

The Secretary shall establish a program for making grants for providing assistance to retail and wholesale motor fuel dealers or other entities for the installation, replacement, or conversion of motor fuel storage and dispensing infrastructure to be used exclusively to store and dispense renewable fuel blends.

(2) Selection criteria

Not later than 12 months after December 19, 2007, the Secretary shall establish criteria for evaluating applications for grants under this subsection that will maximize the availability and use of renewable fuel blends, and that will ensure that renewable fuel blends are available across the country. Such criteria shall provide for—

(A) consideration of the public demand for each renewable fuel blend in a particular geographic area based on State registration records showing the number of flexible-fuel vehicles;

(B) consideration of the opportunity to create or expand corridors of renewable fuel blend stations along interstate or State highways;

(C) consideration of the experience of each applicant with previous, similar projects;

(D) consideration of population, number of flexible-fuel vehicles, number of retail fuel outlets, and saturation of flexible-fuel vehicles; and

(E) priority consideration to applications that—

- (i) are most likely to maximize displacement of petroleum consumption, measured as a total quantity and a percentage;