

§ 9206. Wind resource assessment

The Secretary shall initiate a three-year national wind resource assessment program. As part of such program, the Secretary shall—

- (1) conduct activities to validate existing assessments of known wind resources;
- (2) perform wind resource assessments in regions of the United States where the use of wind energy may prove feasible;
- (3) initiate a general site prospecting program;
- (4) establish standard wind data collection and siting techniques; and
- (5) establish, in consultation with the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, a national wind data center which shall make public information available on the known wind energy resources of various regions throughout the United States.

(Pub. L. 96-345, §7, Sept. 8, 1980, 94 Stat. 1143.)

§ 9207. Criteria for program selection

The Secretary shall set priorities which are, as far as possible, consistent with the intent and purposes of this chapter and which are set in accordance with the following criteria:

- (1) the construction, operation, and maintenance costs of wind energy systems shall be minimized;
- (2) programs established under this chapter shall be conducted with the express intent of bringing wind energy system costs down to a level competitive with energy costs from conventional energy systems;
- (3) priority shall be given in the conduct of programs established under this chapter to those projects in which cost-sharing funds are provided by private, industrial, agricultural, or governmental entities or utilities; and
- (4) to the extent that the Secretary is limited by the availability of funds to carry out the objectives of this chapter, priority, but not exclusive emphasis, should be given in the early years of the programs to activities under sections 9204 and 9206 of this title and in the later years of the programs to activities under section 9205 of this title.

(Pub. L. 96-345, §8, Sept. 8, 1980, 94 Stat. 1144.)

§ 9208. Administrative provisions**(a) Monitoring of performance; collection and evaluation of data**

The Secretary, in coordination with such Government agencies as may be appropriate, shall—

- (1) monitor the performance and operation of wind energy systems installed under this chapter; and
- (2) collect and evaluate data and information on the performance and operation of wind energy systems installed under this chapter.

(b) Liaison

The Secretary shall also maintain continuing liaison with related industries and interests and with the scientific and technical community in

order to assure that the benefits of programs under this chapter are and will continue to be realized to the maximum extent feasible.

(c) Availability of information

The Secretary shall assure, subject to section 552 of title 5 and section 1905 of title 18, that full and complete information with respect to any program, project, or other activity conducted under this chapter is made available to Federal, State, and local authorities, relevant segments of the economy, the scientific community, and the public so that the early, widespread, and practical use of wind energy throughout the United States is promoted to the maximum extent feasible.

(Pub. L. 96-345, §9, Sept. 8, 1980, 94 Stat. 1144; Pub. L. 104-66, title I, §1051(b), Dec. 21, 1995, 109 Stat. 716.)

AMENDMENTS

1995—Subsec. (a)(3). Pub. L. 104-66 struck out par. (3) which read as follows: “from time to time carry out such studies and investigations and take such other actions, including the submission of special reports to the Congress when appropriate, as may be necessary to assure that the programs for which the Secretary is responsible under this chapter effectively carry out the purposes of this chapter.”

§ 9209. Utilization of capabilities and facilities

The Secretary shall utilize the technological and management capabilities, equipment, and facilities of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration to the maximum extent practicable in carrying out his duties under this chapter, and shall enter into such additional agreements with the Administrator of such Administration as may be necessary for this purpose.

(Pub. L. 96-345, §10, Sept. 8, 1980, 94 Stat. 1145.)

§ 9210. Analysis of applications of wind energy systems

The Secretary shall—

- (1) initiate and conduct a federal applications study for wind energy systems, cooperatively with appropriate Federal agencies to determine the potential for the use of wind systems at specific Federal facilities; and this study shall—

(A) include an analysis which determines those sites at which wind energy systems are economically competitive with the marginal costs of new conventional energy sources in the areas;

(B) identify potential sites and uses of wind energy systems at the following agencies as well as any others which the Secretary deems necessary:

- (i) the Department of Defense;
- (ii) the Department of Transportation (including the United States Coast Guard, the Federal Aviation Administration, and the Federal Highway Administration);
- (iii) the Department of Commerce;
- (iv) the Department of Agriculture; and
- (v) the Department of the Interior;

(C) provide a preliminary report to the Congress within nine months after September 8, 1980; and