

§ 5587. Supervision of research, development, and demonstration programs

(a) Monitoring of photovoltaic systems; collection and evaluation of data; studies, investigations, and reports

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

(1) monitor the performance and operation of photovoltaic systems installed under this subchapter;

(2) collect and evaluate data and information on the performance and operation of photovoltaic systems installed under this subchapter; and

(3) 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 subchapter effectively carry out the policy of this subchapter.

(b) Assistance from scientific, technical, and professional societies and industry representatives

In the development of the performance criteria and test procedures required under section 5586 of this title, the Secretary shall work closely with the appropriate scientific, technical, and professional societies and industry representatives in order to assure the best possible use of available expertise in this area.

(c) Liaison with industries, interests, and scientific and technical community

The Secretary shall also maintain continuing liaison with related industries and interests, and with the scientific and technical community, during and after the period of the programs carried out under this subchapter, in order to assure that the projected benefits of such programs are and will continue to be realized.

(Pub. L. 95-590, § 8, Nov. 4, 1978, 92 Stat. 2518.)

§ 5588. Solar Photovoltaic Energy Advisory Committee

(a) Establishment; duties

There is hereby established a Solar Photovoltaic Energy Advisory Committee, which shall study and advise the Secretary on—

(1) the scope and pace of research and development with respect to solar photovoltaic energy systems;

(2) the need for and timing of solar photovoltaic energy systems demonstration projects;

(3) the need for change in any research, development, or demonstration program established under this subchapter; and

(4) the economic, technological, and environmental consequences of the use of solar photovoltaic energy systems.

(b) Membership; chairman

The Committee shall be composed of thirteen members, including eleven members appointed by the Secretary from industrial organizations, academic institutions, professional societies or institutions, and other sources as he sees fit,

and two members of the public appointed by the President. The Chairman of the Committee shall be elected from among the members thereof.

(c) Cooperation from executive departments, agencies, and instrumentalities

The heads of the departments, agencies, and instrumentalities of the executive branch of the Federal Government shall cooperate with the Committee in carrying out the requirements of this section, and shall furnish to the Committee such information as the Committee deems necessary to carry out this section.

(d) Application of section 7234 of this title

Section 7234 of this title shall be applicable to the Committee, except as inconsistent with this section.

(Pub. L. 95-590, § 9, Nov. 4, 1978, 92 Stat. 2518.)

TERMINATION OF ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Advisory committees established after Jan. 5, 1973, to terminate not later than the expiration of the 2-year period beginning on the date of their establishment, unless, in the case of a committee established by the President or an officer of the Federal Government, such committee is renewed by appropriate action prior to the expiration of such 2-year period, or in the case of a committee established by the Congress, its duration is otherwise provided for by law. See section 14 of Pub. L. 92-463, Oct. 6, 1972, 86 Stat. 776, set out in the Appendix to Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

§ 5589. Promotion and facilitation of practical use of photovoltaic energy

(a) Dissemination of information; trade secret exemption

The Secretary shall take all possible steps to assure that full and complete information with respect to the demonstrations and other activities conducted under this subchapter is made available to Federal, State, and local authorities, relevant segments of the economy, the scientific and technical community, and the public at large, both during and after the close of the programs under this subchapter, with the objective of promoting and facilitating to the maximum extent feasible the early and widespread practical use of photovoltaic energy throughout the United States. Any trade secret or other proprietary information shall be exempted from such mandatory disclosure, as otherwise specified in law applicable to research, development and demonstration programs of the Department of Energy, including, but not limited to, section 5916 of this title.

(b) Studies and investigations

The Secretary shall—

(1) study the effect of the widespread utilization of photovoltaic systems on the existing electric utility system at varying levels of photovoltaic contribution to the system;

(2) study and investigate the effect of utility rate structures, building codes, zoning ordinances, and other laws, codes, ordinances, and practices upon the practical use of photovoltaic systems;

(3) determine the extent to which such laws, codes, ordinances, and practices should be changed to permit or facilitate such use and