

(Pub. L. 95-619, title II, §265, as added Pub. L. 96-294, title V, §562, June 30, 1980, 94 Stat. 749.)

§ 8235e. Authority of Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to exempt application of certain laws

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission may exempt from any provisions in sections 4, 5, and 7 of the Natural Gas Act (15 U.S.C. 717c, 717d, and 717f) and titles II and IV of the Natural Gas Policy Act of 1978 (15 U.S.C. 3341 through 3348 and 3391 through 3394) the sale or transportation, by any public utility, local distribution company, interstate or intrastate pipeline, or any other person, of any natural gas which is determined (in the case of a regulated utility, company, pipeline, or person) by the State regulatory authority having rate-making authority over such utility, company, pipeline, or person, or (in the case of a nonregulated utility, company, pipeline, or person) by such utility, company, pipeline, or person, to have been conserved because of a prototype residential energy efficiency program which is established under a plan approved under section 8235a(a) of this title, if the Commission determines that such exemption is necessary to make feasible the demonstration of such prototype residential energy efficiency program.

(Pub. L. 95-619, title II, §266, as added Pub. L. 96-294, title V, §562, June 30, 1980, 94 Stat. 749; amended Pub. L. 105-388, §5(c)(4), Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3479.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Natural Gas Policy Act of 1978, referred to in text, is Pub. L. 95-621, Nov. 9, 1978, 92 Stat. 3350, as amended. Title II of the Natural Gas Policy Act of 1978 was classified generally to subchapter II (§3341 et seq.) of chapter 60 of Title 15, Commerce and Trade, prior to its repeal by Pub. L. 100-42, §2(a), May 21, 1987, 101 Stat. 314. Title IV of the Natural Gas Policy Act of 1978 is classified generally to subchapter IV (§3391 et seq.) of chapter 60 of Title 15. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 3301 of Title 15 and Tables.

AMENDMENTS

1998—Pub. L. 105-388 substituted “(15 U.S.C. 717c” for “(17 U.S.C. 717c”.

§ 8235f. Application of other laws

(a) Lack of immunity

No provision contained in this part—

(1) shall restrict any agency of the United States or any State from exercising its powers under any law to prevent unfair methods of competition and unfair or deceptive acts or practices;

(2) shall provide to any person any immunity from civil or criminal liability;

(3) shall create any defenses to actions brought under the antitrust laws; or

(4) shall modify or abridge any private right of action under the antitrust laws.

(b) Utility programs under part A

Any public utility entering into a contract under a plan for the establishment of a prototype residential energy efficiency program approved under section 8235a(a) of this title shall

not be required to carry out, with respect to any residential building located in the portion of the utility's service area designated in the contract, the actions required to be contained in such utility's program by subsections (a) and (b) of section 8216¹ of this title, if the contract requires such actions (or equivalent actions as determined by the Secretary) to be taken.

(c) “Antitrust laws” defined

For purposes of this section, the term “antitrust laws” means—

(1) the Sherman Act (15 U.S.C. 1 et seq.);

(2) the Clayton Act (15 U.S.C. 12 et seq.);

(3) the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 41 et seq.);

(4) sections 73 and 74 of the Wilson Tariff Act (15 U.S.C. 8 and 9); and

(5) sections 2, 3, and 4 of the Act entitled “An Act to amend section 2 of the Act entitled ‘An Act to supplement existing laws against unlawful restraints and monopolies, and for other purposes’, approved October 15, 1914, as amended (U.S.C., title 15, sec. 13), and for other purposes” approved June 19, 1936 (15 U.S.C. 21a, 13a, and 13b, commonly known as the Robinson-Patman Antidiscrimination Act).

(Pub. L. 95-619, title II, §267, as added Pub. L. 96-294, title V, §562, June 30, 1980, 94 Stat. 749.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 8216 of this title, referred to in subsec. (b), was omitted from the Code pursuant to section 8229 of this title, which terminated authority under that section June 30, 1989.

The Sherman Act (15 U.S.C. 1 et seq.), referred to in subsec. (c)(1), is act July 2, 1890, ch. 647, 26 Stat. 209, as amended, which is classified to sections 1 to 7 of Title 15, Commerce and Trade. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1 of Title 15 and Tables.

The Clayton Act (15 U.S.C. 12 et seq.), referred to in subsec. (c)(2), is act Oct. 15, 1914, ch. 323, 38 Stat. 730, as amended, which is classified generally to sections 12, 13, 14 to 19, 21, and 22 to 27 of Title 15, and sections 52 and 53 of Title 29, Labor. For further details and complete classification of this Act to the Code, see References in Text note set out under section 12 of Title 15 and Tables.

The Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. 41 et seq.), referred to in subsec. (c)(3), is act Sept. 26, 1914, ch. 311, 38 Stat. 717, as amended, which is classified generally to subchapter I (§41 et seq.) of chapter 2 of Title 15. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see section 58 of Title 15 and Tables.

§ 8235g. Records and reports

(a) Records

Each State and local government submitting any application for a plan which is approved under section 8235a(a) of this title, and each public utility and person or persons entering into a contract under such a plan, shall keep such records and make such reports as the Secretary may require. The Secretary and the Comptroller General of the United States shall have access, at reasonable times and under reasonable conditions, to any books, documents, papers, records, and reports of each such State and local government, utility, and person or persons which the

¹ See References in Text note below.

Secretary determines, in consultation with the Comptroller General of the United States, are pertinent to this part.

(b) Reports

The Secretary shall make an annual report to the President on the activities carried out under this part which shall be submitted to the Congress with the annual report on the activities of the Department of Energy required by section 7267 of this title and which shall contain—

- (1) an estimate of the total amount of energy saved as a result of the activities carried out under this part;
- (2) an estimate of the annual savings in energy anticipated as a result of each prototype residential energy efficiency program established under a plan approved under section 8235a(a) of this title;
- (3) an analysis, developed in consultation with the Federal Trade Commission and the Department of Justice, of the impact on competition of each prototype residential energy efficiency program established under a plan approved under section 8235a(a) of this title; and
- (4) if the Secretary determines that it is appropriate, an analysis of the impact of expanding the approval of plans under section 8235a(a) of this title to establish prototype residential energy efficiency programs, and the provision of financial assistance to such programs, on a national basis and an assessment of the alternative methods by which such an expansion could be accomplished.

(Pub. L. 95-619, title II, §268, as added Pub. L. 96-294, title V, §562, June 30, 1980, 94 Stat. 750.)

§ 8235h. Revoking approval of plans and terminating financial assistance

The Secretary shall revoke the approval of any plan under section 8235a(a) of this title for the establishment of a prototype residential energy efficiency program, and shall terminate the provision of financial assistance under section 8235a(c) of this title to carry out such plan, if the Secretary determines, in consultation with the Federal Trade Commission and after notice and the opportunity for a hearing, that carrying out such plan—

- (1) causes unfair methods of competition;
- (2) has a substantial adverse effect on competition in the portion of the service area of the public utility designated by the contract entered into under the plan; or
- (3) provides a supplier or contractor of energy conservation measures with an unreasonably large share of the contracts for the supply or installation of such measures under such plan in the service area of the public utility designated by the contract entered into under such plan.

(Pub. L. 95-619, title II, §269, as added Pub. L. 96-294, title V, §562, June 30, 1980, 94 Stat. 751.)

§ 8235i. Authorization of appropriations

(a) Authorization of appropriations

There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this part—

- (1) the sum of \$10,000,000 for the fiscal year ending on September 30, 1981; and
- (2) the sum equal to \$10,000,000 minus the amount appropriated for the fiscal year ending on September 30, 1981, under the authorization contained in this section, for the fiscal year ending on September 30, 1982.

(b) Availability

Any funds appropriated under the authorization contained in this section shall remain available until expended.

(Pub. L. 95-619, title II, §270, as added Pub. L. 96-294, title V, §562, June 30, 1980, 94 Stat. 751.)

PART D—RESIDENTIAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY
RATING GUIDELINES

§ 8236. Voluntary rating guidelines

(a) In general

Not later than 18 months after October 24, 1992, the Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, representatives of existing home energy rating programs, and other appropriate persons, shall, by rule, issue voluntary guidelines that may be used by State and local governments, utilities, builders, real estate agents, lenders, agencies in mortgage markets, and others, to enable and encourage the assignment of energy efficiency ratings to residential buildings.

(b) Contents of guidelines

The voluntary guidelines issued under subsection (a) of this section shall—

- (1) encourage uniformity with regard to systems for rating the annual energy efficiency of residential buildings;
- (2) establish protocols and procedures for—
 - (A) certification of the technical accuracy of building energy analysis tools used to determine energy efficiency ratings;
 - (B) training of personnel conducting energy efficiency ratings;
 - (C) data collection and reporting;
 - (D) quality control; and
 - (E) monitoring and evaluation;
- (3) encourage consistency with, and support for, the uniform plan for Federal energy efficient mortgages, including that developed under section 946 of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 12712 note) and pursuant to sections 105 and 106 of the Energy Policy Act of 1992;
- (4) provide that rating systems take into account local climate conditions and construction practices, solar energy collected on-site, and the benefits of peak load shifting construction practices, and not discriminate among fuel types; and
- (5) establish procedures to ensure that residential buildings can receive an energy efficiency rating at the time of sale and that such rating is communicated to potential buyers.

(Pub. L. 95-619, title II, §271, as added Pub. L. 102-486, title I, §102(a), Oct. 24, 1992, 106 Stat. 2787.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 946 of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act, referred to in subsec. (b)(3), is section