

planning and executing such project. At least 75 per centum of the funds expended in any fiscal year, from any appropriation available to carry out the purposes of this chapter, in connection with projects for the control or extinguishment of fires in inactive coal mines where such action is not necessary for the protection of lands or other property owned or controlled by the United States or any of its agencies, shall be expended in conformity with clause (1) of this subsection.

(Aug. 31, 1954, ch. 1156, §5, 68 Stat. 1010.)

§ 556. Administration

In carrying out the provisions of section 553 of this title the Secretary of the Interior is authorized—

(a) Employment of personnel

to secure, by contract or otherwise, and without regard to the civil service laws and chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of title 5, for work of a temporary, intermittent, or emergency character, such personal services as may be deemed necessary for the efficient and economical performance of the work;

(b) Employment of equipment

to hire, with or without personal services, work animals and animal-drawn and motor-propelled vehicles and equipment, at rates to be approved by the Secretary of the Interior and without regard to the provisions of section 6101 of title 41;

(c) Contractual authority

to procure all or any part of the surveys, investigations, and control or extinguishment work by contracts with engineers, contractors, or firms or corporations thereof;

(d) Acquisition of lands, etc.

to acquire lands or rights and interests therein, including improvements, by purchase, lease, gift, exchange, condemnation, or otherwise, whenever necessary for the purposes of this chapter;

(e) Property restoration

to repair, restore, or replace private property damaged or destroyed as a result of, or incident to, operations under this chapter; and

(f) Contributions; cooperation with other agencies; disposition of moneys

to receive and accept money and property, real or personal, or interests therein, as a gift, bequest, or contribution, for use in any of the activities authorized under this chapter; and to conduct any of the activities authorized under this chapter in cooperation with any person or agency, Federal, State, or private. Any money so received shall be deposited in the Treasury of the United States in an available trust fund to be disbursed by the Secretary of the Treasury upon certification by the Secretary of the Interior in accordance with the terms of the grant, and shall remain available until expended for the purposes for which received and accepted.

(Aug. 31, 1954, ch. 1156, §6, 68 Stat. 1010.)

CODIFICATION

In subsec. (a), “chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of title 5” substituted for “the Classification Act of 1949, as amended” on authority of Pub. L. 89-554, §7(b), Sept. 6, 1966, 80 Stat. 631, the first section of which enacted Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

In subsec. (b), “section 6101 of title 41” substituted for “section 3709, Revised Statutes (41 U.S.C., sec. 5)” on authority of Pub. L. 111-350, §6(c), Jan. 4, 2011, 124 Stat. 3854, which Act enacted Title 41, Public Contracts.

§ 557. Rules and regulations

The Secretary of the Interior may issue rules and regulations to effectuate the purposes of this chapter.

(Aug. 31, 1954, ch. 1156, §7, 68 Stat. 1011.)

§ 558. Authorization of appropriations

There are hereby authorized to be appropriated such sums,¹ as may be necessary to carry out the provisions and purposes of this chapter.

(Aug. 31, 1954, ch. 1156, §8, 68 Stat. 1011; Pub. L. 102-486, title XXV, §2504(d)(3), Oct. 24, 1992, 106 Stat. 3106.)

AMENDMENTS

1992—Pub. L. 102-486 struck out “not to exceed \$500,000 annually,” after “such sums,”.

CHAPTER 14—ANTHRACITE MINE DRAINAGE AND FLOOD CONTROL

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| Sec. | |
| 571. | Declaration of policy. |
| 572. | United States contributions to Pennsylvania: authority, conditions, limitations. |
| 573. | Statement by Commonwealth for Secretary. |
| 574. | Hearings; withholding payments. |
| 575. | Repealed. |
| 576. | Authorization of appropriations. |

§ 571. Declaration of policy

It is hereby recognized that the presence of large volumes of water in anthracite coal formations involves serious wastage of the fuel resources of the Nation, and constitutes a menace to health and safety and national security. It is therefore declared to be the policy of the Congress to provide for the control and drainage of water in the anthracite coal formations and thereby conserve natural resources, promote national security, prevent injuries and loss of life, and preserve public and private property, and to seal abandoned coal mines and to fill voids in abandoned coal mines, in those instances where such work is in the interest of the public health or safety.

(July 15, 1955, ch. 369, §1, 69 Stat. 352; Pub. L. 87-818, §1(1), Oct. 15, 1962, 76 Stat. 934.)

AMENDMENTS

1962—Pub. L. 87-818 declared it to be the policy of the Congress “to seal abandoned coal mines and to fill voids in abandoned coal mines, in those instances where such work is in the interest of the public health or safety”.

¹ So in original. The comma probably should not appear.

§ 572. United States contributions to Pennsylvania: authority, conditions, limitations

The Secretary of the Interior is authorized, in order to carry out the purposes mentioned in section 571 of this title, to make financial contributions on the basis of programs or projects approved by the Secretary to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (hereinafter designated as the "Commonwealth") to seal abandoned coal mines and to fill voids in abandoned coal mines, in those instances where such work is in the interest of the public health or safety, and for control and drainage of water which, if not so controlled or drained, will cause the flooding of anthracite coal formations, said contributions to be applied to the cost of drainage works, pumping plants, and related facilities but subject, however, to the following conditions and limitations:

(a) Contributions to be matched by Commonwealth

The amounts authorized to be contributed by the Secretary of the Interior to the Commonwealth shall be equally matched by the Commonwealth;

(b) Amount of contributions authorized

The total amount of contributions by the Secretary of the Interior under the authority of this chapter shall not exceed \$8,500,000, of which \$1,500,000 of the unexpended balance remaining as of July 31, 1962, shall be reserved for the control and drainage of water;

(c) Limitation on use of contribution

The amounts contributed by the Secretary of the Interior under the authority of this chapter and the equally matched amounts contributed by the Commonwealth shall not be used for operating and maintaining projects constructed pursuant to this chapter or for the purchase of culm, rock, or spoil banks;

(d) Commonwealth responsible for installation and operation of projects

The Commonwealth shall have full responsibility for installing, operating, and maintaining projects constructed pursuant to this chapter, and shall give evidence, satisfactory to the Secretary of the Interior, that it will enforce effective installation, operation, and maintenance safeguards;

(e) Location and operation of projects

Projects constructed pursuant to this chapter shall be so located, operated, and maintained as to provide the maximum conservation of anthracite coal resources or, in those instances where such work would be in the interest of the public health or safety, to seal abandoned coal mines and to fill voids in abandoned coal mines, and, where possible, to avoid creating inequities among those mines which may be affected by the waters to be controlled thereby; and

(f) Economic justification for abandoned coal mine projects

Projects for the sealing of abandoned coal mines or the filling of voids in abandoned coal mines shall be determined by the Secretary of the Interior to be economically justified. The

Secretary shall not find any project to be economically justified unless the potential benefits are estimated by him to exceed the estimated cost of the project.

(July 15, 1955, ch. 369, §2, 69 Stat. 353; Pub. L. 87-818, §1(2)-(7), Oct. 15, 1962, 76 Stat. 934.)

AMENDMENTS

1962—Pub. L. 87-818, §1(2), authorized the Secretary of the Interior, in the preamble clause, to seal abandoned coal mines and to fill voids in abandoned coal mines, in those instances where such work is in the interest of the public health or safety.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 87-818, §1(3), reserved \$1,500,000 of the unexpended balance remaining as of July 31, 1962, for the control and drainage of water.

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 87-818, §1(4), prohibited the use of contributions for the purchase of culm, rock, or spoil banks.

Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 87-818, §1(5), struck out "and" after the semicolon.

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 87-818, §1(6), prescribed that projects be so located, operated, and maintained as to seal abandoned coal mines and to fill voids in abandoned coal mines in those instances where such work would be in the interest of the public health or safety.

Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 87-818, §1(7), added subsec. (f).

§ 573. Statement by Commonwealth for Secretary

The Commonwealth shall furnish to the Secretary of the Interior a statement with respect to the project showing work done, the status of the project, expenditures and amounts obligated, at such times and in such detail as the Secretary of the Interior shall require for the purposes of this chapter.

(July 15, 1955, ch. 369, §3, 69 Stat. 353.)

§ 574. Hearings; withholding payments

Whenever the Secretary of the Interior, after reasonable notice and opportunity for hearing, finds that there is a failure to expend funds in accordance with the terms and conditions governing the Federal contribution for such approved projects, he shall notify the Commonwealth that further payments will not be made to the Commonwealth from appropriations under this chapter until he is satisfied that there will no longer be any such failure. Until he is so satisfied the Secretary of the Interior shall withhold the payment of any financial contributions to the Commonwealth.

(July 15, 1955, ch. 369, §4, 69 Stat. 353.)

§ 575. Repealed. Pub. L. 105-362, title IX, § 901(i)(1), Nov. 10, 1998, 112 Stat. 3290

Section, acts July 15, 1955, ch. 369, §5, 69 Stat. 353; Pub. L. 87-818, §1(8), Oct. 15, 1962, 76 Stat. 935, related to annual reports to Congress by Secretary of the Interior on anthracite mine drainage and flood control program.

§ 576. Authorization of appropriations

There is hereby authorized to be appropriated such amounts as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this chapter.

(July 15, 1955, ch. 369, §5, formerly §6, 69 Stat. 353; renumbered §5, Pub. L. 105-362, title IX, §901(i)(2), Nov. 10, 1998, 112 Stat. 3290.)