

§ 15964. Clean coal centers of excellence**(a) In general**

As part of the clean coal power initiative, the Secretary shall award competitive, merit-based grants to institutions of higher education for the establishment of centers of excellence for energy systems of the future.

(b) Basis for grants

The Secretary shall award grants under this section to institutions of higher education that show the greatest potential for advancing new clean coal technologies.

(Pub. L. 109–58, title IV, §404, Aug. 8, 2005, 119 Stat. 753.)

§ 15965. Time limit for award; extension

If a Clean Coal Power Initiative project selected after March 11, 2009, for negotiation under this or any other Act in any fiscal year, is not awarded within 2 years from the date the application was selected, negotiations shall cease and the Federal funds committed to the application shall be retained by the Department for future coal-related research, development and demonstration projects, except that the time limit may be extended at the Secretary's discretion for matters outside the control of the applicant, or if the Secretary determines that extension of the time limit is in the public interest.

(Pub. L. 111–8, div. C, title III, Mar. 11, 2009, 123 Stat. 616.)

CODIFICATION

Section was enacted as part of the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2009, and also as part of the Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009, and not as part of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 which comprises this chapter.

PART B—CLEAN POWER PROJECTS

§ 15971. Integrated coal/renewable energy system**(a) In general**

Subject to the availability of appropriations, the Secretary may provide loan guarantees for a project to produce energy from coal of less than 7,000 Btu/lb. using appropriate advanced integrated gasification combined cycle technology, including repowering of existing facilities, that—

- (1) is combined with wind and other renewable sources;
- (2) minimizes and offers the potential to sequester carbon dioxide emissions; and
- (3) provides a ready source of hydrogen for near-site fuel cell demonstrations.

(b) Requirements

The facility—

- (1) may be built in stages;
- (2) shall have a combined output of at least 200 megawatts at successively more competitive rates; and
- (3) shall be located in the Upper Great Plains.

(c) Technical criteria

Technical criteria described in section 15962(b) of this title shall apply to the facility.

(d) Investment tax credits**(1) In general**

The loan guarantees provided under this section do not preclude the facility from receiving an allocation for investment tax credits under section 48A of title 26.

(2) Other funding

Use of the investment tax credit described in paragraph (1) does not prohibit the use of other clean coal program funding.

(Pub. L. 109–58, title IV, §411, Aug. 8, 2005, 119 Stat. 754.)

§ 15972. Loan to place Alaska clean coal technology facility in service**(a) Definitions**

In this section:

(1) Borrower

The term “borrower” means the owner of the clean coal technology plant.

(2) Clean coal technology plant

The term “clean coal technology plant” means the plant located near Healy, Alaska, constructed under Department cooperative agreement number DE-FC-22-91PC90544.

(3) Cost of a direct loan

The term “cost of a direct loan” has the meaning given the term in section 661a(5)(B) of title 2.

(b) Authorization

Subject to subsection (c), the Secretary shall use amounts made available under subsection (e) to provide the cost of a direct loan to the borrower for purposes of placing the clean coal technology plant into reliable operation for the generation of electricity.

(c) Requirements**(1) Maximum loan amount**

The amount of the direct loan provided under subsection (b) shall not exceed \$80,000,000.

(2) Determinations by Secretary

Before providing the direct loan to the borrower under subsection (b), the Secretary shall determine that—

- (A) the plan of the borrower for placing the clean coal technology plant in reliable operation has a reasonable prospect of success;
- (B) the amount of the loan (when combined with amounts available to the borrower from other sources) will be sufficient to carry out the project; and
- (C) there is a reasonable prospect that the borrower will repay the principal and interest on the loan.

(3) Interest; term

The direct loan provided under subsection (b) shall bear interest at a rate and for a term that the Secretary determines appropriate, after consultation with the Secretary of the Treasury, taking into account the needs and capacities of the borrower and the prevailing rate of interest for similar loans made by public and private lenders.

(4) Additional terms and conditions

The Secretary may require any other terms and conditions that the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

(d) Use of payments

The Secretary shall retain any payments of principal and interest on the direct loan provided under subsection (b) to support energy research and development activities, to remain available until expended, subject to any other conditions in an applicable appropriations Act.

(e) Authorization of appropriations

There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to provide the cost of a direct loan under subsection (b).

(Pub. L. 109-58, title IV, §412, Aug. 8, 2005, 119 Stat. 754.)

§ 15973. Western integrated coal gasification demonstration project**(a) In general**

Subject to the availability of appropriations, the Secretary shall carry out a project to demonstrate production of energy from coal mined in the western United States using integrated gasification combined cycle technology (referred to in this section as the “demonstration project”).

(b) Components

The demonstration project—

- (1) may include repowering of existing facilities;
- (2) shall be designed to demonstrate the ability to use coal with an energy content of not more than 9,000 Btu/lb.; and
- (3) shall be capable of removing and sequestering carbon dioxide emissions.

(c) All types of western coals

Notwithstanding the foregoing, and to the extent economically feasible, the demonstration project shall also be designed to demonstrate the ability to use a variety of types of coal (including subbituminous and bituminous coal with an energy content of up to 13,000 Btu/lb.) mined in the western United States.

(d) Location

The demonstration project shall be located in a western State at an altitude of greater than 4,000 feet above sea level.

(e) Cost sharing

The Federal share of the cost of the demonstration project shall be determined in accordance with section 16352 of this title.

(f) Loan guarantees

Notwithstanding subchapter XIII, the demonstration project shall not be eligible for Federal loan guarantees.

(Pub. L. 109-58, title IV, §413, Aug. 8, 2005, 119 Stat. 755.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Subchapter XIII, referred to in subsec. (f), was in the original “title XIV”, meaning title XIV of Pub. L. 109-58, Aug. 8, 2005, 119 Stat. 1061, which enacted subchapter XIII of this chapter and section 13557 of this

title. For complete classification of title XIV to the Code, see Tables.

§ 15974. Coal gasification

The Secretary is authorized to provide loan guarantees for a project to produce energy from a plant using integrated gasification combined cycle technology of at least 400 megawatts in capacity that produces power at competitive rates in deregulated energy generation markets and that does not receive any subsidy (direct or indirect) from ratepayers.

(Pub. L. 109-58, title IV, §414, Aug. 8, 2005, 119 Stat. 755.)

§ 15975. Petroleum coke gasification

The Secretary is authorized to provide loan guarantees for at least 5 petroleum coke gasification projects.

(Pub. L. 109-58, title IV, §415, Aug. 8, 2005, 119 Stat. 756.)

§ 15976. Electron scrubbing demonstration

The Secretary shall use \$5,000,000 from amounts appropriated to initiate, through the Chicago Operations Office, a project to demonstrate the viability of high-energy electron scrubbing technology on commercial-scale electrical generation using high-sulfur coal.

(Pub. L. 109-58, title IV, §416, Aug. 8, 2005, 119 Stat. 756.)

§ 15977. Department of Energy transportation fuels from Illinois basin coal**(a) In general**

The Secretary shall carry out a program to evaluate the commercial and technical viability of advanced technologies for the production of Fischer-Tropsch transportation fuels, and other transportation fuels, manufactured from Illinois basin coal, including the capital modification of existing facilities and the construction of testing facilities under subsection (b).

(b) Facilities

For the purpose of evaluating the commercial and technical viability of different processes for producing Fischer-Tropsch transportation fuels, and other transportation fuels, from Illinois basin coal, the Secretary shall support the use and capital modification of existing facilities and the construction of new facilities at—

- (1) Southern Illinois University Coal Research Center;
- (2) University of Kentucky Center for Applied Energy Research; and
- (3) Energy Center at Purdue University.

(c) Gasification products test center

In conjunction with the activities described in subsections (a) and (b), the Secretary shall construct a test center to evaluate and confirm liquid and gas products from syngas catalysis in order that the system has an output of at least 500 gallons of Fischer-Tropsch transportation fuel per day in a 24-hour operation.

(d) Milestones**(1) Selection of processes**

Not later than 180 days after August 8, 2005, the Secretary shall select processes for evalu-