

Dec. 22, 1975, 89 Stat. 875, which is classified principally to this subchapter. For complete classification of title I to the Code, see Tables.

### § 6247b. Purchase of oil from marginal wells

#### (a) In general

From amounts authorized under section 6246 of this title, in any case in which the price of oil decreases to an amount less than \$15.00 per barrel (an amount equal to the annual average well head price per barrel for all domestic crude oil), adjusted for inflation, the Secretary may purchase oil from a marginal well at \$15.00 per barrel, adjusted for inflation.

#### (b) Definition of marginal well

The term “marginal well” has the same meaning as the definition of “stripper well property” in section 613A(c)(6)(E) of title 26.

(Pub. L. 94-163, title I, §169, as added Pub. L. 106-469, title III, §301(a), Nov. 9, 2000, 114 Stat. 2037.)

#### PART C—AUTHORITY TO CONTRACT FOR PETROLEUM PRODUCT NOT OWNED BY UNITED STATES

##### PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior part C, consisting of section 6251 of this title, was redesignated part E of this subchapter, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 109-58.

### § 6249. Contracting for petroleum product and facilities

#### (a) In general

Subject to the other provisions of this part, the Secretary may contract—

(1) for storage, in otherwise unused Strategic Petroleum Reserve facilities, of petroleum product not owned by the United States; and

(2) for storage, in storage facilities other than those of the Reserve, of petroleum product either owned or not owned by the United States.

#### (b) Conditions

(1) Petroleum product stored pursuant to such a contract shall, until the expiration, termination, or other conclusion of the contract, be a part of the Reserve and subject to the Secretary’s authority under part B.

(2) The Secretary may enter into a contract for storage of petroleum product under subsection (a) only if—

(A) the Secretary determines (i) that entering into one or more contracts under such subsection would achieve benefits comparable to the acquisition of an equivalent amount of petroleum product, or an equivalent volume of storage capacity, for the Reserve under part B, and (ii) that, because of budgetary constraints, the acquisition of an equivalent amount of petroleum product or volume of storage space for the Reserve cannot be accomplished under part B; and

(B) the Secretary notifies each House of the Congress of the determination and identifies in the notification the location, type, and ownership of storage and related facilities proposed to be included, or the volume, type, and ownership of petroleum products proposed to be stored, in the Reserve, and an estimate of the proposed benefits.

(3) A contract entered into under subsection (a) shall not limit the discretion of the President or the Secretary to conduct a drawdown and sale of petroleum products from the Reserve.

(4) A contract entered into under subsection (a) shall include a provision that the obligation of the United States to make payments under the contract in any fiscal year is subject to the availability of appropriations.

#### (c) Charge for storage

The Secretary may store petroleum product pursuant to a contract entered into under subsection (a)(1) with or without charge or may pay a fee for its storage.

#### (d) Duration

Contracts entered into under subsection (a) may be of such duration as the Secretary considers necessary or appropriate.

#### (e) Binding arbitration

The Secretary may agree to binding arbitration of disputes under any contract entered into under subsection (a).

#### (f) Availability of funds

The Secretary may utilize such funds as are available in the SPR Petroleum Account to carry out the activities described in subsection (a), and may obligate and expend such funds to carry out such activities, in advance of the receipt of petroleum products.

(Pub. L. 94-163, title I, §171, as added Pub. L. 101-383, §6(a)(4), Sept. 15, 1990, 104 Stat. 729; amended Pub. L. 102-486, title XIV, §1403, Oct. 24, 1992, 106 Stat. 2994; Pub. L. 106-469, title I, §103(20), Nov. 9, 2000, 114 Stat. 2033.)

##### PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 171 of Pub. L. 94-163 was renumbered section 191 and was classified to section 6251 of this title, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 109-58.

##### AMENDMENTS

2000—Subsec. (b)(2)(B). Pub. L. 106-469, §103(20)(A), amended subpar. (B) generally. Prior to amendment, subpar. (B) read as follows: “the Secretary notifies each House of the Congress of such determination and includes in such notification the same information required under section 6234(e) of this title with regard to storage and related facilities proposed to be included, or petroleum product proposed to be stored, in the Reserve.”

Subsec. (b)(3). Pub. L. 106-469, §103(20)(B), substituted “sale of petroleum products from” for “distribution of”.

1992—Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 102-486 added subsec. (f).

### § 6249a. Implementation

(a), (b) Repealed. Pub. L. 106-469, title I, § 103(21), Nov. 9, 2000, 114 Stat. 2033

#### (c) Legal status regarding other law

Petroleum product and facilities contracted for under this part have the same status as petroleum product and facilities owned by the United States for all purposes associated with the exercise of the laws of any State or political subdivision thereof.

#### (d) Return of product

At such time as the petroleum product contracted for under this part is withdrawn from