

“(1) in enacting the National Geologic Mapping Act of 1992 (43 U.S.C. 31a et seq.), Congress found, among other things, that—

“(A) during the 2 decades preceding enactment of that Act, the production of geologic maps had been drastically curtailed;

“(B) geologic maps are the primary data base for virtually all applied and basic earth-science investigations;

“(C) Federal agencies, State and local governments, private industry, and the general public depend on the information provided by geologic maps to determine the extent of potential environmental damage before embarking on projects that could lead to preventable, costly environmental problems or litigation;

“(D) the lack of proper geologic maps has led to the poor design of such structures as dams and waste-disposal facilities;

“(E) geologic maps have proven indispensable in the search for needed fossil fuel and mineral resources; and

“(F) a comprehensive nationwide program of geologic mapping is required in order to systematically build the Nation’s geologic-map data base at a pace that responds to increasing demand;

“(2) the geologic mapping program called for by that Act has not been fully implemented; and

“(3) it is time for this important program to be fully implemented.”

§ 31b. Definitions

In sections 31a to 31h of this title:

(1) Advisory committee

The term “advisory committee” means the advisory committee established under section 31d of this title.

(2) Association

The term “Association” means the Association of American State Geologists.

(3) Director

The term “Director” means the Director of the United States Geological Survey.

(4) Education component

The term “education component” means the education component of the geologic mapping program described in section 31c(d)(3) of this title.

(5) Federal component

The term “Federal component” means the Federal component of the geologic mapping program described in section 31c(d)(1) of this title.

(6) Geologic mapping program

The term “geologic mapping program” means the National Cooperative Geologic Mapping Program established by section 31c(a) of this title.

(7) Secretary

The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.

(8) State

The term “State” includes the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, American Samoa, Guam, and the Virgin Islands.

(9) State component

The term “State component” means the State component of the geologic mapping program described in section 31c(d)(2) of this title.

(10) Survey

The term “Survey” means the United States Geological Survey.

(Pub. L. 102-285, §3, May 18, 1992, 106 Stat. 167; Pub. L. 105-36, §3(a), Aug. 5, 1997, 111 Stat. 1107; Pub. L. 106-148, §3, Dec. 9, 1999, 113 Stat. 1719; Pub. L. 116-9, title V, §5002(c), Mar. 12, 2019, 133 Stat. 768.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Sections 31a to 31h of this title, referred to in text, was in the original “this Act”, meaning Pub. L. 102-285, known as the National Geologic Mapping Act of 1992, which is classified principally to sections 31a to 31h of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 31a of this title and Tables.

AMENDMENTS

2019—Par. (4). Pub. L. 116-9, §5002(c)(1), substituted “section 31c(d)(3)” for “section 31e(d)(3)”.

Par. (5). Pub. L. 116-9, §5002(c)(2), substituted “section 31c(d)(1)” for “section 31e(d)(1)”.

Par. (9). Pub. L. 116-9, §5002(c)(3), substituted “section 31c(d)(2)” for “section 31e(d)(2)”.

1999—Pars. (4) to (10). Pub. L. 106-148 added pars. (4), (5), and (9) and redesignated former pars. (4), (5), (6), and (7) as (6), (7), (8), and (10), respectively.

1997—Pub. L. 105-36, §3(a)(1), substituted “In sections 31a to 31h of this title:” for “As used in sections 31a to 31h of this title:” in introductory provisions.

Par. (1). Pub. L. 105-36, §3(a)(5), inserted heading.

Par. (2). Pub. L. 105-36, §3(a)(2), (3), added par. (2). Former par. (2) redesignated (3).

Pars. (3) to (5). Pub. L. 105-36, §3(a)(2), (5), redesignated pars. (2) to (4) as (3) to (5), respectively, and inserted headings. Par. (5) redesignated (7).

Par. (6). Pub. L. 105-36, §3(a)(4), added par. (6).

Par. (7). Pub. L. 105-36, §3(a)(2), (5), redesignated par. (5) as (7) and inserted heading.

§ 31c. Geologic mapping program

(a) Establishment

(1) In general

There is established a national cooperative geologic mapping program between the United States Geological Survey and the State geological surveys, acting through the Association.

(2) Design, development, and administration

The cooperative geologic mapping program shall be—

(A) designed and administered to achieve the objectives set forth in subsection (c);

(B) developed in consultation with the advisory committee; and

(C) administered through the Survey.

(b) Responsibilities of the Survey

(1) Lead agency

The Survey shall be the lead Federal agency responsible for planning, developing national priorities and standards for, coordinating, and managing the geologic mapping program. In carrying out this paragraph, the Secretary, acting through the Director, shall—

(A) develop a 5-year strategic plan for the geologic mapping program in accordance with section 31e of this title, which plan shall be submitted to the Committee on Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Re-