

mines that the order is not approved, the Secretary shall—

- (1) not later than 180 days after making the determination, suspend or terminate, as the case may be, collection of assessments under the order; and
- (2) as soon as practicable, suspend or terminate, as the case may be, activities under the order in an orderly manner.

(Pub. L. 115–254, div. E, §1311, Oct. 5, 2018, 132 Stat. 3482.)

§ 8711. Amendments to orders

The provisions of this chapter applicable to the order shall be applicable to any amendment to the order, except that section 8707 of this title shall not apply to an amendment.

(Pub. L. 115–254, div. E, §1312, Oct. 5, 2018, 132 Stat. 3483.)

§ 8712. Effect on other laws

This chapter shall not affect or preempt any other Federal or State law authorizing research, education, and promotion relating to concrete masonry products.

(Pub. L. 115–254, div. E, §1313, Oct. 5, 2018, 132 Stat. 3483.)

§ 8713. Regulations

The Secretary may issue such regulations as may be necessary to carry out this chapter and the power vested in the Secretary under this chapter.

(Pub. L. 115–254, div. E, §1314, Oct. 5, 2018, 132 Stat. 3483.)

§ 8714. Limitation on expenditures for administrative expenses

Funds appropriated to carry out this chapter may not be used for the payment of the expenses or expenditures of the Board in administering the order.

(Pub. L. 115–254, div. E, §1315, Oct. 5, 2018, 132 Stat. 3483.)

§ 8715. Limitations on obligation of funds

(a) In general

In each fiscal year of the covered period, the Board may not obligate an amount greater than the sum of—

- (1) 73 percent of the amount of assessments estimated to be collected under section 8705 of this title in such fiscal year;
- (2) 73 percent of the amount of assessments actually collected under section 8705 of this title in the most recent fiscal year for which an audit report has been submitted under section 8704(f)(2)(B) of this title as of the beginning of the fiscal year for which the amount that may be obligated is being determined, less the estimate made pursuant to paragraph (1) for such most recent fiscal year; and
- (3) amounts permitted in preceding fiscal years to be obligated pursuant to this subsection that have not been obligated.

(b) Excess amounts deposited in escrow account

Assessments collected under section 8705 of this title in excess of the amount permitted to

be obligated under subsection (a) in a fiscal year shall be deposited in an escrow account for the duration of the covered period.

(c) Treatment of amounts in escrow account

During the covered period, the Board may not obligate, expend, or borrow against amounts required under subsection (b) to be deposited in the escrow account. Any interest earned on such amounts shall be deposited in the escrow account and shall be unavailable for obligation for the duration of the covered period.

(d) Release of amounts in escrow account

After the covered period, the Board may withdraw and obligate in any fiscal year an amount in the escrow account that does not exceed $\frac{1}{2}$ of the amount in the escrow account on the last day of the covered period.

(e) Special rule for estimates for particular fiscal years

(1) Rule

For purposes of subsection (a)(1), the amount of assessments estimated to be collected under section 8705 of this title in a fiscal year specified in paragraph (2) shall be equal to 62 percent of the amount of assessments actually collected under such section in the most recent fiscal year for which an audit report has been submitted under section 8704(f)(2)(B) of this title as of the beginning of the fiscal year for which the amount that may be obligated is being determined.

(2) Fiscal years specified

The fiscal years specified in this paragraph are the 9th and 10th fiscal years that begin on or after October 5, 2018.

(f) Covered period defined

In this section, the term “covered period” means the period that begins on October 5, 2018, and ends on the last day of the 11th fiscal year that begins on or after such date.

(Pub. L. 115–254, div. E, §1316, Oct. 5, 2018, 132 Stat. 3483.)

§ 8716. Study and report by the Government Accountability Office

Not later than 5 years after October 5, 2018, the Comptroller General of the United States shall prepare a study, and not later than 8 years after October 5, 2018, the Comptroller General shall submit to Congress and the Secretary a report, examining—

- (1) how the Board spends assessments collected;
- (2) the extent to which the reported activities of the Board help achieve the annual objectives of the Board;
- (3) any changes in demand for concrete masonry products relative to other building materials;
- (4) any impact of the activities of the Board on the market share of competing products;
- (5) any impact of the activities of the Board on the overall size of the market for building products;
- (6) any impact of the activities of the Board on the total number of concrete-masonry-related jobs, including manufacturing, sales, and installation;