

## CODIFICATION

Section was enacted as part of the Energy Policy Act of 1992, and not as part of the Federal Power Act which generally comprises this chapter.

**§ 798. Purpose and scope of preliminary permits; transfer and cancellation**

**(a) Purpose**

Each preliminary permit issued under this subchapter shall be for the sole purpose of maintaining priority of application for a license under the terms of this chapter for such period or periods, not exceeding a total of 4 years, as in the discretion of the Commission may be necessary for making examinations and surveys, for preparing maps, plans, specifications, and estimates, and for making financial arrangements.

**(b) Extension of period**

The Commission may—

(1) extend the period of a preliminary permit once for not more than 4 additional years beyond the 4 years permitted by subsection (a) if the Commission finds that the permittee has carried out activities under such permit in good faith and with reasonable diligence; and

(2) after the end of an extension period granted under paragraph (1), issue an additional permit to the permittee if the Commission determines that there are extraordinary circumstances that warrant the issuance of the additional permit.

**(c) Permit conditions**

Each such permit shall set forth the conditions under which priority shall be maintained.

**(d) Non-transferability and cancellation of permits**

Such permits shall not be transferable, and may be canceled by order of the Commission upon failure of permittees to comply with the conditions thereof or for other good cause shown after notice and opportunity for hearing.

(June 10, 1920, ch. 285, pt. I, § 5, 41 Stat. 1067; renumbered pt. I and amended, Aug. 26, 1935, ch. 687, title II, §§ 203, 212, 49 Stat. 841, 847; Pub. L. 113-23, § 5, Aug. 9, 2013, 127 Stat. 495; Pub. L. 115-270, title III, § 3001(a), Oct. 23, 2018, 132 Stat. 3862.)

## AMENDMENTS

2018—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 115-270, § 3001(a)(1), substituted “4 years” for “three years”.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 115-270, § 3001(a)(2), inserted dash after “The Commission may”, designated remaining provisions as par. (1), substituted “4 additional years beyond the 4 years” for “2 additional years beyond the 3 years”, and added par. (2).

2013—Pub. L. 113-23 designated existing first, second, and third sentences as subsecs. (a), (c), and (d), respectively, and added subsec. (b).

1935—Act Aug. 26, 1935, § 203, amended section generally, striking out “and a license issued” at end of second sentence and inserting “or for other good cause shown after notice and opportunity for hearing” in last sentence.

**§ 799. License; duration, conditions, revocation, alteration, or surrender**

Licenses under this subchapter shall be issued for a period not exceeding fifty years. Each such

license shall be conditioned upon acceptance by the licensee of all of the terms and conditions of this chapter and such further conditions, if any, as the Commission shall prescribe in conformity with this chapter, which said terms and conditions and the acceptance thereof shall be expressed in said license. Licenses may be revoked only for the reasons and in the manner prescribed under the provisions of this chapter, and may be altered or surrendered only upon mutual agreement between the licensee and the Commission after thirty days’ public notice.

(June 10, 1920, ch. 285, pt. I, § 6, 41 Stat. 1067; renumbered pt. I and amended, Aug. 26, 1935, ch. 687, title II, §§ 204, 212, 49 Stat. 841, 847; Pub. L. 104-106, div. D, title XLIII, § 4321(i)(6), Feb. 10, 1996, 110 Stat. 676; Pub. L. 104-316, title I, § 108(a), Oct. 19, 1996, 110 Stat. 3832; Pub. L. 105-192, § 2, July 14, 1998, 112 Stat. 625.)

## AMENDMENTS

1998—Pub. L. 105-192 inserted at end “Licenses may be revoked only for the reasons and in the manner prescribed under the provisions of this chapter, and may be altered or surrendered only upon mutual agreement between the licensee and the Commission after thirty days’ public notice.”

1996—Pub. L. 104-316 struck out at end “Licenses may be revoked only for the reasons and in the manner prescribed under the provisions of this chapter, and may be altered or surrendered only upon mutual agreement between the licensee and the Commission after thirty days’ public notice.”

Pub. L. 104-106 struck out at end “Copies of all licenses issued under the provisions of this subchapter and calling for the payment of annual charges shall be deposited with the General Accounting Office, in compliance with section 20 of title 41.”

1935—Act Aug. 26, 1935, § 204, amended section generally, substituting “thirty days” for “ninety days” in third sentence and inserting last sentence.

## EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1996 AMENDMENT

For effective date and applicability of amendment by Pub. L. 104-106, see section 4401 of Pub. L. 104-106, set out as a note under section 2302 of Title 10, Armed Forces.

**§ 800. Issuance of preliminary permits or licenses**

**(a) Preference**

In issuing preliminary permits hereunder or original licenses where no preliminary permit has been issued, the Commission shall give preference to applications therefor by States, Indian tribes, and municipalities, provided the plans for the same are deemed by the Commission equally well adapted, or shall within a reasonable time to be fixed by the Commission be made equally well adapted, to conserve and utilize in the public interest the water resources of the region; and as between other applicants, the Commission may give preference to the applicant the plans of which it finds and determines are best adapted to develop, conserve, and utilize in the public interest the water resources of the region, if it be satisfied as to the ability of the applicant to carry out such plans.

**(b) Development of water resources by United States; reports**

Whenever, in the judgment of the Commission, the development of any water resources for public purposes should be undertaken by the United