

with the Foreign Minister of Canada regarding a treaty dealing with the complex issues of recovery of damages, contingency plans, and coordinated actions in the event of an oil spill in the Arctic Ocean.

(d) Report to Congress

The Secretary of State shall report to the Congress on the Secretary's efforts pursuant to this section no later than June 1, 1991.

(Pub. L. 96-487, title X, §1005, Dec. 2, 1980, 94 Stat. 2453; Pub. L. 101-380, title VIII, §8302, Aug. 18, 1990, 104 Stat. 572.)

AMENDMENTS

1990—Pub. L. 101-380 inserted “and impact of potential oil spills in Arctic Ocean” in section catchline, designated existing text as subsec. (a), and added subsecs. (b) to (d).

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1990 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 101-380 applicable to incidents occurring after Aug. 18, 1990, see section 1020 of Pub. L. 101-380, set out as an Effective Date note under section 2701 of Title 33, Navigation and Navigable Waters.

STUDY ON BARREN-GROUND CARIBOU

Pub. L. 96-487, title III, §306, Dec. 2, 1980, 94 Stat. 2396, provided:

“(a) The Congress finds that the barren-ground caribou are a migratory species deserving of careful study and special protection, and that the Western Arctic and the Porcupine herds of such caribou are of national and international significance.

“(b) The Secretary of the Interior shall conduct, and the Governor of Alaska is urged to cooperate with the Secretary in conducting, an ecological study of the barren-ground caribou herds north of the Yukon River and the herds that have been known to migrate between the United States and Canada, including, but not limited to, a determination of the seasonal migration patterns, reproduction and mortality rates, composition and age structure, behavioral characteristics, habitats (including but not limited to calving, feeding, summering and wintering areas, and key migration routes) that are critical to their natural stability and productivity and the effects on the herds of development by man, predation, and disease. In conducting this study the Secretary shall review the experience of other Arctic circumpolar countries with caribou and is authorized to enter into such contracts as he deems necessary to carry out portions or all of this study.”

§ 3146. Transportation alternatives portion of study

In studying oil and gas alternative transportation systems, the Secretary shall consult with the Secretary of Transportation and shall consider—

- (1) the extent to which environmentally and economically feasible alternative routes could be established;
- (2) the prospective oil and gas production potential of this area of Alaska for each alternative transportation route; and
- (3) the environmental and economic costs and other values associated with such alternative routes.

(Pub. L. 96-487, title X, §1006, Dec. 2, 1980, 94 Stat. 2453.)

§ 3147. Arctic research study

(a) Mission, facilities, and administration of Naval Arctic Research Laboratory

The Secretary, the Secretary of Defense, and the Secretary of Energy shall initiate and carry

out a study of the mission, facilities and administration of the Naval Arctic Research Laboratory (NARL), at Point Barrow, Alaska. The study shall review the historical responsibilities carried out at NARL and their contribution to applied and basic Arctic research. The study shall specifically address and the Secretary shall make recommendations on the need for re-directing the United States Arctic research policy and the role of the NARL facilities in developing and implementing that policy.

(b) Assessment of future uses of NARL

The Secretaries shall assess the future use of NARL in—

(1) developing relevant scientific information on the Arctic environment and utilizing applied research to (A) deal with the unique problems the Arctic presents in providing public services; (B) minimize the impact of resource development on the environment and the culture of the Native people; and (C) promote international cooperation among the Nations which share responsibility for the Arctic environment;

(2) assessing the impact of oil and gas exploration, development, and transportation on the Arctic environment, including impact on fish, marine and land mammals, and migratory waterfowl;

(3) developing advanced design technologies, operational practices, and transportation systems to improve the environmental safety and efficiency of oil and gas exploration and production in the Arctic, including offshore activities;

(4) enlarging the body of knowledge on Arctic ice conditions and developing practical and efficient means of dealing with potential oil spills and other hazards associated with resource development in Alaska's Arctic; and

(5) developing a comprehensive Arctic policy for the Federal Government that will accommodate the need for development and use of Arctic resources with appropriate recognition and consideration given to the unique nature of the Arctic environment and the needs of its Native residents.

(c) Recommendations

After completion of the study, the Secretaries shall make recommendations on—

(1) changes in the mission and management of NARL necessary to accomplish the research and policy goals addressed in the study;

(2) the appropriate Federal agency or agencies that should have primary responsibility for management of NARL;

(3) changes in the organizational structure of NARL that would allow greater involvement by State and private organizations in the use, management and/or funding of NARL; and

(4) the appropriate level of Federal funding for scientific and technological research on the Arctic environment and its uses.

(d) Consultations; opportunity for public review and comment

In the course of the study, the Secretaries shall consult with representatives of the Department of Navy, the National Oceanic and Atmos-