

nation, 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 the Reserve upon the expiration, termination, or other conclusion of the contract, such petroleum product (or the equivalent quantity of petroleum product withdrawn from the Reserve pursuant to the contract) shall be deemed, for purposes of determining the extent to which such product is thereafter subject to any Federal, State, or local law or regulation, not to have left the place where such petroleum product was located at the time it was originally committed to a contract under this part.

(Pub. L. 94-163, title I, §172, as added Pub. L. 101-383, §6(a)(4), Sept. 15, 1990, 104 Stat. 730; amended Pub. L. 106-469, title I, §103(21), Nov. 9, 2000, 114 Stat. 2033.)

AMENDMENTS

2000—Subsecs. (a), (b). Pub. L. 106-469 struck out subsecs. (a) and (b) which read as follows:

“(a) AMENDMENT TO PLAN NOT REQUIRED.—An amendment of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve Plan is not required for any action taken under this part.

“(b) FILL RATE REQUIREMENT.—For purposes of section 6240(d)(1) of this title, any petroleum product stored in the Reserve under this part that is removed from the Reserve at the expiration, termination, or other conclusion of the agreement shall be considered to be part of the Reserve until the beginning of the fiscal year following the fiscal year in which the petroleum product was removed.”

**§ 6249b. Repealed. Pub. L. 106-469, title I, § 103(22), Nov. 9, 2000, 114 Stat. 2033**

Section, Pub. L. 94-163, title I, §173, as added Pub. L. 101-383, §6(a)(4), Sept. 15, 1990, 104 Stat. 731, related to contracts not requiring implementing legislation.

**§ 6249c. Contracts for which implementing legislation is needed**

**(a) In general**

(1) In the case of contracts entered into under this part, and amendments to such contracts, for which implementing legislation will be needed, the Secretary may transmit an implementing bill to both Houses of the Congress.