

**Editorial Notes**

## REFERENCES IN TEXT

Act April 5, 1944, referred to in subsec. (a), is act Apr. 5, 1944, ch. 172, 58 Stat. 190, as amended, which is classified generally to chapter 6 (§321 et seq.) of Title 30, Mineral Lands and Mining. For complete classification of this Act to the Code see Tables.

## AMENDMENTS

2018—Pub. L. 115-232 renumbered section 7438 of this title as this section.

1999—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 106-65 substituted “and the Committee on Armed Services” for “and the Committee on National Security”.

1996—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 104-106 substituted “Committee on Armed Services of the Senate and the Committee on National Security of the House of Representatives” for “Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and the House of Representatives”.

1980—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 96-513, §513(37)(A), substituted provisions relating to authority of the Secretary under the specified statute, for provisions relating to authority of the Administrator of the Energy Research and Development Administration under the specified statute.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 96-513, §513(37)(B), substituted provisions relating to authorities of the Secretary, for provisions relating to authorities of the Administrator of the Energy Research and Development Administration.

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 96-513, §513(37)(C), substituted “in this chapter” for “herein contained”.

1976—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 94-258 substituted “Administrator of the Energy Research and Development Administration” for “Secretary of the Interior”.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 94-258 substituted “Administrator of the Energy Research and Development Administration” for “Secretary of the Interior” wherever appearing therein and struck out “of the Navy” after “Secretary” wherever appearing.

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 94-258 struck out “of the Navy” after “Secretary”.

1962—Pub. L. 87-796 amended section generally by substituting provisions relating to the possession, use, and transfer of the experimental demonstration facility near Rifle, Colorado, for provisions which stated that this chapter does not authorize the development or operation of the naval oil-shale reserves.

**Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries**

## EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2018 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 115-232 effective Feb. 1, 2019, with provision for the coordination of amendments and special rule for certain redesignations, see section 800 of Pub. L. 115-232, set out as a note preceding section 3001 of this title.

## EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1980 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 96-513 effective Dec. 12, 1980, see section 701(b)(3) of Pub. L. 96-513, set out as a note under section 101 of this title.

**§ 8739. Certain oil shale reserves: transfer of jurisdiction and petroleum exploration, development, and production**

(a) **TRANSFER REQUIRED.**—(1) Upon the enactment of this section, the Secretary of Energy shall transfer to the Secretary of the Interior administrative jurisdiction over all public domain lands included within Oil Shale Reserve Numbered 1 and those public domain lands included within the undeveloped tracts of Oil Shale Reserve Numbered 3.

(2) Not later than November 18, 1998, the Secretary of Energy shall transfer to the Secretary

of the Interior administrative jurisdiction over those public domain lands included within the developed tract of Oil Shale Reserve Numbered 3, which consists of approximately 6,000 acres and 24 natural gas wells, together with pipelines and associated facilities.

(3) Notwithstanding the transfer of jurisdiction, the Secretary of Energy shall continue to be responsible for all environmental restoration, waste management, and environmental compliance activities that are required under Federal and State laws with respect to conditions existing on the lands at the time of the transfer.

(4) Upon the transfer to the Secretary of the Interior of jurisdiction over public domain lands under this subsection, the other provisions of this chapter shall cease to apply with respect to the transferred lands.

(b) **AUTHORITY TO LEASE.**—(1) Beginning on November 18, 1997, or as soon thereafter as practicable, the Secretary of the Interior shall enter into leases with one or more private entities for the purpose of exploration for, and development and production of, petroleum (other than in the form of oil shale) located on or in public domain lands in Oil Shale Reserves Numbered 1 and 3 (including the developed tract of Oil Shale Reserve Numbered 3). Any such lease shall be made in accordance with the requirements of the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C. 181 et seq.) regarding the lease of oil and gas lands and shall be subject to valid existing rights.

(2) Notwithstanding the delayed transfer of the developed tract of Oil Shale Reserve Numbered 3 under subsection (a)(2), the Secretary of the Interior shall enter into a lease under paragraph (1) with respect to the developed tract before November 18, 1998.

(c) **MANAGEMENT.**—The Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Director of the Bureau of Land Management, shall manage the lands transferred under subsection (a) in accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.) and other laws applicable to the public lands.

(d) **TRANSFER OF EXISTING EQUIPMENT.**—The lease of lands by the Secretary of the Interior under this section may include the transfer, at fair market value, of any well, gathering line, or related equipment owned by the United States on the lands transferred under subsection (a) and suitable for use in the exploration, development, or production of petroleum on the lands.

(e) **COST MINIMIZATION.**—The cost of any environmental assessment required pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) in connection with a proposed lease under this section shall be paid out of unobligated amounts available for administrative expenses of the Bureau of Land Management.

(f) **TREATMENT OF RECEIPTS.**—(1) Notwithstanding section 35 of the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C. 191), all moneys received during the period specified in paragraph (2) from a lease under this section (including moneys in the form of sales, bonuses, royalties (including interest charges collected under the Federal Oil and Gas Royalty Management Act of 1982 (30 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.)), and rentals) shall be covered into the Treasury of the United States and

shall not be subject to distribution to the States pursuant to subsection (a) of such section 35.

(2) The period referred to in this subsection is the period beginning on November 18, 1997, and ending on the date on which the Secretary of Energy and the Secretary of the Interior jointly certify to Congress that the sum of the moneys deposited in the Treasury under paragraph (1) is equal to the total of the following:

(A) The cost of all environmental restoration, waste management, and environmental compliance activities incurred by the United States with respect to the lands transferred under subsection (a).

(B) The cost to the United States to originally install wells, gathering lines, and related equipment on the transferred lands and any other cost incurred by the United States with respect to the lands.

(g) USE OF RECEIPTS.—(1) The Secretary of the Interior may use, without further appropriation, not more than \$1,500,000 of the moneys covered into the Treasury under subsection (f)(1) to cover the cost of any additional analysis, site characterization, and geotechnical studies deemed necessary by the Secretary to support environmental restoration, waste management, or environmental compliance with respect to Oil Shale Reserve Numbered 3. Upon the completion of such studies, the Secretary of the Interior shall submit to Congress a report containing—

(A) the results and conclusions of such studies; and

(B) an estimate of the total cost of the Secretary's preferred alternative to address environmental restoration, waste management, and environmental compliance needs at Oil Shale Reserve Numbered 3.

(2) If the cost estimate required by paragraph (1)(B) does not exceed the total of the moneys covered into the Treasury under subsection (f)(1) and remaining available for obligation as of the date of submission of the report under paragraph (1), the Secretary of the Interior may access such moneys, beginning 60 days after submission of the report and without further appropriation, to cover the costs of implementing the preferred alternative to address environmental restoration, waste management, and environmental compliance needs at Oil Shale Reserve Numbered 3. If the cost estimate exceeds such available moneys, the Secretary of the Interior may only access such moneys as authorized by subsequent Act of Congress.

(Added Pub. L. 105–85, div. C, title XXXIV, §3404(a), Nov. 18, 1997, 111 Stat. 2059, §7439; amended Pub. L. 107–107, div. A, title X, §1048(c)(14), Dec. 28, 2001, 115 Stat. 1226; Pub. L. 107–345, §1, Dec. 17, 2002, 116 Stat. 2894; renumbered §8739, Pub. L. 115–232, div. A, title VIII, §807(d)(5), Aug. 13, 2018, 132 Stat. 1836.)

#### Editorial Notes

##### REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Mineral Leasing Act, referred to in subsec. (b)(1), is act Feb. 25, 1920, ch. 85, 41 Stat. 437, as amended, which is classified generally to chapter 3A (§181 et seq.) of Title 30, Mineral Lands and Mining. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 181 of Title 30 and Tables.

The Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, referred to in subsec. (c), is Pub. L. 94–579, Oct. 21, 1976, 90 Stat. 2743, as amended, which is classified principally to chapter 35 (§1701 et seq.) of Title 43, Public Lands. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1701 of Title 43 and Tables.

The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, referred to in subsec. (e), is Pub. L. 91–190, Jan. 1, 1970, 83 Stat. 852, as amended, which is classified generally to chapter 55 (§4321 et seq.) of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 4321 of Title 42 and Tables.

The Federal Oil and Gas Royalty Management Act of 1982, referred to in subsec. (f)(1), is Pub. L. 97–451, Jan. 12, 1983, 96 Stat. 2447, which is classified generally to chapter 29 (§1701 et seq.) of Title 30, Mineral Lands and Mining. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1701 of Title 30 and Tables.

#### PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 8741 was renumbered section 9271 of this title.

#### AMENDMENTS

2018—Pub. L. 115–232 renumbered section 7439 of this title as this section.

2002—Subsec. (f)(1). Pub. L. 107–345, §1(1), struck out after first sentence: “Subject to a specific authorization and appropriation for this purpose, such moneys may be used for reimbursement of environmental restoration, waste management, and environmental compliance costs incurred by the United States with respect to the lands transferred under subsection (a).”

Subsec. (g). Pub. L. 107–345, §1(2), added subsec. (g).

2001—Subsec. (a)(2). Pub. L. 107–107, §1048(c)(14)(A), substituted “November 18, 1998” for “one year after the date of the enactment of this section”.

Subsec. (b)(1). Pub. L. 107–107, §1048(c)(14)(B), substituted “November 18, 1997,” for “the date of the enactment of this section.”

Subsec. (b)(2). Pub. L. 107–107, §1048(c)(14)(C), substituted “November 18, 1998” for “the end of the one-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this section”.

Subsec. (f)(2). Pub. L. 107–107, §1048(c)(14)(D), substituted “November 18, 1997,” for “the date of the enactment of this section”.

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#### CHAPTER 871—CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES

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