

“(b) METRICS.—The Secretary shall support the development of metrics, including conversion metrics, to determine the effectiveness of the pilot program in achieving the purposes in subsection (a) and the number and types of partnerships established between public and private sector entities and the National Laboratories compared to baseline data.

“(c) COORDINATION.—In carrying out the activities authorized in this section, the Secretary shall coordinate with the Directors of (and dedicated technology transfer staff at) the National Laboratories, in particular for matchmaking services for individual projects, which should be led by the National Laboratories.

“(d) FUNDING EMPLOYEE PARTNERING ACTIVITIES.—The Secretary shall delegate to the Directors of each National Laboratory and single-purpose research facility of the Department the authority to compensate National Laboratory employees providing services under this section.

“(e) DURATION.—Subject to the availability of appropriations, the pilot program established in this section shall operate for not less than 3 years and may be built off an existing program.

“(f) EVALUATION.—Not later than 6 months after the completion of this pilot program, the Secretary shall support the evaluation of the success of the pilot program in achieving the purposes in subsection (a) and shall submit the evaluation to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate. The assessment shall include analyses of the performance of the pilot program based on the metrics developed under subsection (b).

“(g) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ‘National Laboratory’ has the meaning given such term in section 2(3) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 15801(3)).”

§ 16391a. Technology transfer reports and evaluation

(a) Annual report

As part of the updated technology transfer execution plan required each year under section 16391(h)(2) of this title, the Secretary of Energy (in this section referred to as the “Secretary”) shall submit to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report on the progress and implementation of programs established under sections 9001, 9002, 9003, 9004, and 9005 of this Act.

(b) Evaluation

Not later than 3 years after December 27, 2020, and every 3 years thereafter the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate an evaluation on the extent to which programs established under sections 9001, 9002, 9003, 9004, and 9005 of this Act are achieving success based on relevant short-term and long-term metrics.

(c) Report on technology transfer gaps

Not later than 3 years after December 27, 2020, the Secretary shall enter into an agreement with the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine to submit to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate a report on programmatic gaps that exist to advance the commercial application of tech-

nologies developed at the National Laboratories (as defined in section 15801(3) of this title).

(Pub. L. 116-260, div. Z, title IX, §9007, Dec. 27, 2020, 134 Stat. 2600.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Sections 9001, 9002, 9003, 9004, and 9005 of this Act, referred to in subsecs. (a) and (b), are sections 9001, 9002, 9003, 9004, and 9005 of div. Z of Pub. L. 116-260, known as the Energy Act of 2020. Sections 9001 and 9003 of the Act amended section 16391 of this title. Section 9002 of the Act enacted provisions set out as a note under section 16391 of this title. Section 9004 of the Act amended section 16396 of this title. Section 9005 of the Act enacted section 7256c of this title.

CODIFICATION

Section was enacted as part of the Energy Act of 2020, and not as part of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 which comprises this chapter.

§ 16392. Technology Infrastructure Program

(a) Definitions

In this section:

(1) Program

The term “Program” means the Technology Infrastructure Program established under subsection (b).

(2) Technology cluster

The term “technology cluster” means a concentration of technology-related business concerns, institutions of higher education, or non-profit institutions, that reinforce each other’s performance in the areas of technology development through formal or informal relationships.

(3) Technology-related business concern

The term “technology-related business concern” means a for-profit corporation, company, association, firm, partnership, or small business concern that—

- (A) conducts scientific or engineering research;
- (B) develops new technologies;
- (C) manufactures products based on new technologies; or
- (D) performs technological services.

(b) Establishment

The Secretary shall establish a Technology Infrastructure Program in accordance with this section.

(c) Purpose

The purpose of the Program shall be to improve the ability of National Laboratories and single-purpose research facilities to support departmental missions by—

- (1) stimulating the development of technology clusters that can support departmental missions at the National Laboratories or single-purpose research facilities;
- (2) improving the ability of National Laboratories and single-purpose research facilities to leverage and benefit from commercial research, technology, products, processes, and services; and
- (3) encouraging the exchange of scientific and technological expertise between—