

(B) understanding the technical and economic characteristics of energy storage technology or microgrid projects;

(C) understanding financing alternatives;

(D) permitting and siting issues;

(E) obtaining case studies of similar and successful energy storage technology or microgrid projects;

(F) reviewing and obtaining computer software for assessment, design, and operation and maintenance of energy storage technology or microgrid systems; and

(G) understanding and utilizing the reliability and resiliency benefits of energy storage technology and microgrid projects.

(2) External contracts

In carrying out paragraph (1), the Secretary may enter into contracts with third-party experts, including engineering, finance, and insurance experts, to provide technical assistance to eligible entities relating to the activities described in such paragraph, or other relevant activities, as determined by the Secretary.

(f) Authorization of appropriations

(1) In general

There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$15,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2021 through 2025.

(2) Administrative costs

Not more than 5 percent of the amount appropriated under paragraph (1) for each fiscal year shall be used for administrative expenses.

(Pub. L. 116-260, div. Z, title III, §3202, Dec. 27, 2020, 134 Stat. 2525.)

Editorial Notes

CODIFICATION

Section was enacted as part of the Energy Act of 2020, and not as part of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 which comprises this chapter.

PART E—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

§ 17241. Lightweight materials research and development

(a) In general

As soon as practicable after December 19, 2007, the Secretary of Energy shall establish a program to determine ways in which the weight of motor vehicles could be reduced to improve fuel efficiency without compromising passenger safety by conducting research, development, and demonstration relating to—

(1) the development of new materials (including cast metal composite materials formed by autocombustion synthesis) and material processes that yield a higher strength-to-weight ratio or other properties that reduce vehicle weight; and

(2) reducing the cost of—

(A) lightweight materials (including high-strength steel alloys, aluminum, magnesium, metal composites, and carbon fiber reinforced polymer composites) with the properties required for construction of lighter-weight vehicles; and

(B) materials processing, automated manufacturing, joining, and recycling lightweight materials for high-volume applications.

(b) Authorization of appropriations

There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$80,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

(Pub. L. 110-140, title VI, §651, Dec. 19, 2007, 121 Stat. 1694.)

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective on the date that is 1 day after Dec. 19, 2007, see section 1601 of Pub. L. 110-140, set out as a note under section 1824 of Title 2, The Congress.

§ 17242. Commercial insulation demonstration program

(a) Definitions

In this section:

(1) Advanced insulation

The term “advanced insulation” means insulation that has an R value of not less than R35 per inch.

(2) Covered refrigeration unit

The term “covered refrigeration unit” means any—

(A) commercial refrigerated truck;

(B) commercial refrigerated trailer; or

(C) commercial refrigerator, freezer, or refrigerator-freezer described in section 6313(c) of this title.

(b) Report

Not later than 90 days after December 19, 2007, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report that includes an evaluation of—

(1) the state of technological advancement of advanced insulation; and

(2) the projected amount of cost savings that would be generated by implementing advanced insulation into covered refrigeration units.

(c) Demonstration program

(1) Establishment

If the Secretary determines in the report described in subsection (b) that the implementation of advanced insulation into covered refrigeration units would generate an economically justifiable amount of cost savings, the Secretary, in cooperation with manufacturers of covered refrigeration units, shall establish a demonstration program under which the Secretary shall demonstrate the cost-effectiveness of advanced insulation.

(2) Disclosure

The Secretary may, for a period of up to 5 years after an award is granted under the demonstration program, exempt from mandatory disclosure under section 552 of title 5 (popularly known as the Freedom of Information Act) information that the Secretary determines would be a privileged or confidential trade secret or commercial or financial information under subsection (b)(4) of such section if the information had been obtained from a non-Government party.