

**(d) Submission to Secretary**

Each affected director of a National Laboratory shall submit to the Secretary, with respect to each agreement entered into under this section—

- (1) a summary of information relating to the relevant project;
- (2) the total estimated costs of the project;
- (3) estimated commencement and completion dates of the project; and
- (4) other documentation determined to be appropriate by the Secretary.

**(e) Certification**

The Secretary shall require the contractor of the affected National Laboratory to certify that each activity carried out under a project for which an agreement is entered into under this section—

- (1) is not in direct competition with the private sector; and
- (2) does not present, or minimizes, any apparent conflict of interest, and avoids or neutralizes any actual conflict of interest, as a result of the agreement under this section.

**(f) Extension**

The pilot program referred to in subsection (a) shall be extended until September 30, 2019.

**(g) Reports****(1) Overall assessment**

Not later than 60 days after the date described in subsection (f), the Secretary, in coordination with directors of the National Laboratories, shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report that—

- (A) assesses the overall effectiveness of the pilot program referred to in subsection (a);
- (B) identifies opportunities to improve the effectiveness of the pilot program;
- (C) assesses the potential for program activities to interfere with the responsibilities of the National Laboratories to the Department; and
- (D) provides a recommendation regarding the future of the pilot program.

**(2) Transparency**

The Secretary, in coordination with directors of the National Laboratories, shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress an annual report that accounts for all incidences of, and provides a justification for, non-Federal entities using funds derived from a Federal contract or award to carry out agreements pursuant to this section.

(Pub. L. 115–246, title I, §107, Sept. 28, 2018, 132 Stat. 3132.)

SUBCHAPTER II—DEPARTMENT OF  
ENERGY RESEARCH COORDINATION

**§ 18631. Crosscutting research and development****(a) In general**

The Secretary shall use the capabilities of the Department to identify strategic opportunities for collaborative research, development, demonstration, and commercial application of innovative science and technologies.

**(b) Existing programs; coordination of activities**

To the maximum extent practicable, the Secretary shall seek—

(1) to leverage existing programs of the Department; and

(2) to consolidate and coordinate activities throughout the Department to promote collaboration and crosscutting approaches within programs of the Department.

**(c) Additional actions**

The Secretary shall—

(1) prioritize activities that use all affordable domestic resources;

(2) develop a planning, evaluation, and technical assessment framework for setting objective long-term strategic goals and evaluating progress that—

- (A) ensures integrity and independence; and
- (B) provides the flexibility to adapt to market dynamics;

(3) ensure that activities shall be undertaken in a manner that does not duplicate other activities within the Department or other Federal Government activities; and

(4) identify programs that may be more effectively left to the States, industry, non-governmental organizations, institutions of higher education, or other stakeholders.

(Pub. L. 115–246, title II, §203, Sept. 28, 2018, 132 Stat. 3135.)

**§ 18632. Energy Innovation Hubs****(a) Definitions**

In this section:

**(1) Advanced energy technology**

The term “advanced energy technology” means—

- (A) an innovative technology—
  - (i) that produces energy from solar, wind, geothermal, biomass, tidal, wave, ocean, or other renewable energy resources;
  - (ii) that produces nuclear energy;
  - (iii) for carbon capture and sequestration;
  - (iv) that enables advanced vehicles, vehicle components, and related technologies that result in significant energy savings;
  - (v) that generates, transmits, distributes, uses, or stores energy more efficiently than conventional technologies, including through Smart Grid technologies; or
  - (vi) that enhances the energy independence and security of the United States by enabling improved or expanded supply and production of domestic energy resources, including coal, oil, and natural gas;

(B) a research, development, demonstration, or commercial application activity necessary to ensure the long-term, secure, and sustainable supply of an energy-critical element; or

(C) any other innovative energy technology area identified by the Secretary.

**(2) Hub****(A) In general**

The term “Hub” means an Energy Innovation Hub established under this section.