Public Law 96-571
96th Congress

An Act

To provide certain authority for the purchase and sale of electric energy by Federal departments in Alaska, and for other purposes.

Dec. 22, 1980
[S. 1784]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

Alaska Federal-Civilian Energy Efficiency Swap Act of 1980.

SHORT TITLE

SECTION 1. This Act shall be referred to as the "Alaska Federal-Civilian Energy Efficiency Swap Act of 1980". 40 USC 795 note.

DEFINITIONS

SEC. 2. As used in this Act— 40 USC 795.

(1) The term "non-Federal electric energy" means electric energy generated by any facility other than a federally owned electric generating facility.

(2) The term "agency" means the head of any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States.

(3) The term "federally generated electric energy" means any electric power generated by an electric generating facility owned and operated by an agency.

(4) The term "non-Federal person" means any corporation, cooperative, municipality, or other non-Federal entity which generates non-Federal electric energy.

AUTHORITY TO SELL CERTAIN ELECTRIC ENERGY

SEC. 3. (a) For the purposes of conserving oil and natural gas and better utilizing coal, any agency is authorized to sell to any non-Federal person, and to enter into contracts for the sale to any non-Federal person of, electric energy generated by coal-fired electric generating facilities of such agency in Alaska without regard to any provision of law which precludes such sale where such energy is available from other local sources, if the agency determines that— 40 USC 795a.

(1) such energy is generated by an existing coal-fired generating facility;

(2) such energy is surplus to such agency's needs and is in excess of the electric energy specifically generated for consumption by, or necessary to serve the requirements of, any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States;

(3) the costs to the ultimate consumers of such energy is less than the costs which, in the absence of such sale, would be incurred by such consumers for the purchase of an equivalent amount of energy; and

(4) such sale will result in a reduction in the total consumption of oil or natural gas by the non-Federal person purchasing such electric energy below that consumption which would occur in the absence of such sale.

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(b) Federally generated electric energy sold by an agency as provided in subsection (a) shall be priced to recover the fuel costs and variable operation and maintenance costs of the Federal generating facility concerned which costs are attributable to such sale, plus an amount equal to one-half the difference between—

(1) the costs of producing the electric energy by coal generation, and

(2) the costs of producing electric energy by the oil or gas generation being displaced.

PURCHASE AUTHORITY

40 USC 795b.

SEC. 4. For purposes of economy and efficiency and conserving oil and natural gas, whenever practicable and consistent with other laws applicable to any agency and whenever consistent with the requirements applicable to any agency, such agency shall endeavor to purchase electric power from any non-Federal person for consumption in Alaska by any facility of such agency where such purchase—

(1) will result in a savings to other consumers of electric energy sold by such non-Federal person without increasing the cost incurred by any agency for electric energy, or

(2) will result in a cost savings to such agency of electric energy without increasing costs to other consumers of electric energy, taking into account the remaining useful life of any facility available to such agency to generate electric energy for such agency and the cost of maintaining such facility on a standby basis.

SAVINGS PROVISIONS

40 USC 795c.

SEC. 5. (a) Nothing in this Act shall be construed as requiring or authorizing any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States to construct any new electric generating facility or related facility, to modify any existing facility, or to employ reserve or standby equipment in order to accommodate the needs of any non-Federal person for electric energy.

(b) Revenues received by any agency pursuant to section 3 of this Act from the sale of electric energy generated from any facility of such agency shall be available to the agency without fiscal year limitation for the purchase of fuel and for operation, maintenance, and other costs associated with such facility.

(c) The authorities of this Act shall be exercised for such periods and pursuant to such terms and conditions as the agency concerned deems necessary consistent with the provisions of this Act and consistent with its responsibilities under other provisions of law.

(d) All contracts or other agreements executed under this Act, notwithstanding any other provision of law, shall be negotiated and executed by the agency selling or purchasing electric energy under this Act.

REPORTS

Submittal to congressional committees.
40 USC 795d.

SEC. 6. (a) The Secretary of Energy shall biennially report to the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources and the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce and the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs of the House of Representatives on the actions taken pursuant to this Act by any agency. The report shall include an analysis of the costs of electric energy purchased or sold as provided in this Act, the revenues and profits generated from such sales, and the oil and natural gas conserved as a result of any such

purchases and sales. Such agencies shall cooperate with the Secretary of Energy in providing information for the purpose of such report.

(b) The Secretary of Energy shall conduct a study to determine whether and to what extent the provisions of section 3 of this Act should be extended to apply to electric power generated by coal-fired Federal electric generating facilities located in the United States outside of Alaska. The study shall identify such facilities, their capacity and purpose and other pertinent information. The Secretary shall provide by October 1, 1981, a report of such study, together with appropriate recommendations for legislation, to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce and the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs of the United States House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the United States Senate.

Study.

Submittal to congressional committees.

Approved December 22, 1980.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

SENATE REPORT No. 96-966 (Comm. on Energy and Natural Resources).
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 126 (1980):
Sept. 25, considered and passed Senate.
Dec. 5, considered and passed House, amended.
Dec. 12, Senate agreed to House amendments.