

CODIFICATION

Pub. L. 110-234 and Pub. L. 110-246 enacted identical sections. Pub. L. 110-234 was repealed by section 4(a) of Pub. L. 110-246.

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 8104, Pub. L. 107-171, title IX, §9004, May 13, 2002, 116 Stat. 480, related to a biodiesel fuel education program, prior to the general amendment of this chapter by Pub. L. 110-246. See section 8106 of this title.

§ 8105. Bioenergy program for advanced biofuels**(a) Definition of eligible producer**

In this section, the term “eligible producer” means a producer of advanced biofuels.

(b) Payments

The Secretary shall make payments to eligible producers to support and ensure an expanding production of advanced biofuels.

(c) Contracts

To receive a payment, an eligible producer shall—

- (1) enter into a contract with the Secretary for production of advanced biofuels; and
- (2) submit to the Secretary such records as the Secretary may require as evidence of the production of advanced biofuels.

(d) Basis for payments

The Secretary shall make payments under this section to eligible producers based on—

- (1) the quantity and duration of production by the eligible producer of an advanced biofuel;
- (2) the net nonrenewable energy content of the advanced biofuel, if sufficient data is available, as determined by the Secretary; and
- (3) other appropriate factors, as determined by the Secretary.

(e) Equitable distribution

The Secretary may limit the amount of payments that may be received by a single eligible producer under this section in order to distribute the total amount of funding available in an equitable manner.

(f) Other requirements

To receive a payment under this section, an eligible producer shall meet any other requirements of Federal and State law (including regulations) applicable to the production of advanced biofuels.

(g) Funding**(1) Mandatory funding**

Of the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Secretary shall use to carry out this section, to remain available until expended—

- (A) \$55,000,000 for fiscal year 2009;
- (B) \$55,000,000 for fiscal year 2010;
- (C) \$85,000,000 for fiscal year 2011; and
- (D) \$105,000,000 for fiscal year 2012.

(2) Discretionary funding

In addition to any other funds made available to carry out this section, there is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$25,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2009 through 2012.

(3) Limitation

Of the funds provided for each fiscal year, not more than 5 percent of the funds shall be made available to eligible producers for production at facilities with a total refining capacity exceeding 150,000,000 gallons per year.

(Pub. L. 107-171, title IX, §9005, as added Pub. L. 110-234, title IX, §9001(a), May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1314, and Pub. L. 110-246, §4(a), title IX, §9001(a), June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 2075.)

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PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 8105, Pub. L. 107-171, title IX, §9005, May 13, 2002, 116 Stat. 480, related to an energy audit and renewable energy development program, prior to the general amendment of this chapter by Pub. L. 110-246.

§ 8106. Biodiesel fuel education program**(a) Establishment**

The Secretary shall, under such terms and conditions as the Secretary determines to be appropriate, make competitive grants to eligible entities to educate governmental and private entities that operate vehicle fleets, other interested entities (as determined by the Secretary), and the public about the benefits of biodiesel fuel use.

(b) Eligible entities

To receive a grant under subsection (b), an entity shall—

- (1) be a nonprofit organization or institution of higher education;
- (2) have demonstrated knowledge of biodiesel fuel production, use, or distribution; and
- (3) have demonstrated the ability to conduct educational and technical support programs.

(c) Consultation

In carrying out this section, the Secretary shall consult with the Secretary of Energy.

(d) Funding

Of the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Secretary shall use to carry out this section \$1,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

(Pub. L. 107-171, title IX, §9006, as added Pub. L. 110-234, title IX, §9001(a), May 22, 2008, 122 Stat. 1315, and Pub. L. 110-246, §4(a), title IX, §9001(a), June 18, 2008, 122 Stat. 1664, 2076.)

CODIFICATION

Pub. L. 110-234 and Pub. L. 110-246 enacted identical sections. Pub. L. 110-234 was repealed by section 4(a) of Pub. L. 110-246.

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 8106, Pub. L. 107-171, title IX, §9006, May 13, 2002, 116 Stat. 482; Pub. L. 109-171, title I, §1301, Feb. 8, 2006, 120 Stat. 6, related to assistance to farmers, ranchers, and rural small businesses to purchase renewable energy systems and make energy efficiency improvements, prior to the general amendment of this chapter by Pub. L. 110-246. See section 8107 of this title.

§ 8107. Rural Energy for America Program**(a) Establishment**

The Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Energy, shall establish a Rural Energy for America Program to promote energy efficiency and renewable energy development for agricultural producers and rural small businesses through—

- (1) grants for energy audits and renewable energy development assistance; and
- (2) financial assistance for energy efficiency improvements and renewable energy systems.

(b) Energy audits and renewable energy development assistance**(1) In general**

The Secretary shall make competitive grants to eligible entities to provide assistance to agricultural producers and rural small businesses—

- (A) to become more energy efficient; and
- (B) to use renewable energy technologies and resources.

(2) Eligible entities

An eligible entity under this subsection is—

- (A) a unit of State, tribal, or local government;
- (B) a land-grant college or university or other institution of higher education;
- (C) a rural electric cooperative or public power entity; and
- (D) any other similar entity, as determined by the Secretary.

(3) Selection criteria

In reviewing applications of eligible entities to receive grants under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall consider—

- (A) the ability and expertise of the eligible entity in providing professional energy audits and renewable energy assessments;
- (B) the geographic scope of the program proposed by the eligible entity in relation to the identified need;
- (C) the number of agricultural producers and rural small businesses to be assisted by the program;
- (D) the potential of the proposed program to produce energy savings and environmental benefits;
- (E) the plan of the eligible entity for performing outreach and providing information and assistance to agricultural producers and rural small businesses on the benefits of energy efficiency and renewable energy development; and
- (F) the ability of the eligible entity to leverage other sources of funding.

(4) Use of grant funds

A recipient of a grant under paragraph (1) shall use the grant funds to assist agricultural producers and rural small businesses by—

- (A) conducting and promoting energy audits; and
- (B) providing recommendations and information on how—
 - (i) to improve the energy efficiency of the operations of the agricultural producers and rural small businesses; and

- (ii) to use renewable energy technologies and resources in the operations.

(5) Limitation

Grant recipients may not use more than 5 percent of a grant for administrative expenses.

(6) Cost sharing

A recipient of a grant under paragraph (1) that conducts an energy audit for an agricultural producer or rural small business under paragraph (4) shall require that, as a condition of the energy audit, the agricultural producer or rural small business pay at least 25 percent of the cost of the energy audit, which shall be retained by the eligible entity for the cost of the energy audit.

(c) Financial assistance for energy efficiency improvements and renewable energy systems**(1) In general**

In addition to any similar authority, the Secretary shall provide loan guarantees and grants to agricultural producers and rural small businesses—

- (A) to purchase renewable energy systems, including systems that may be used to produce and sell electricity; and
- (B) to make energy efficiency improvements.

(2) Award considerations

In determining the amount of a loan guarantee or grant provided under this section, the Secretary shall take into consideration, as applicable—

- (A) the type of renewable energy system to be purchased;
- (B) the estimated quantity of energy to be generated by the renewable energy system;
- (C) the expected environmental benefits of the renewable energy system;
- (D) the quantity of energy savings expected to be derived from the activity, as demonstrated by an energy audit;
- (E) the estimated period of time for the energy savings generated by the activity to equal the cost of the activity;
- (F) the expected energy efficiency of the renewable energy system; and
- (G) other appropriate factors.

(3) Feasibility studies**(A) In general**

The Secretary may provide assistance in the form of grants to an agricultural producer or rural small business to conduct a feasibility study for a project for which assistance may be provided under this subsection.

(B) Limitation

The Secretary shall use not more than 10 percent of the funds made available to carry out this subsection to provide assistance described in subparagraph (A).

(C) Avoidance of duplicative assistance

An entity shall be ineligible to receive assistance to carry out a feasibility study for a project under this paragraph if the entity has received other Federal or State assistance for a feasibility study for the project.