

Section 1142, Pub. L. 93-410, title II, § 202, Sept. 3, 1974, 88 Stat. 1087; Pub. L. 95-91, title III, § 301(a), title VII, §§ 703, 707, Aug. 4, 1977, 91 Stat. 577, 606, 607; Pub. L. 95-238, title V, § 510, Feb. 25, 1978, 92 Stat. 88, related to payment of guaranteed obligation by Secretary of Energy.

Section 1143, Pub. L. 93-410, title II, § 203, Sept. 3, 1974, 88 Stat. 1087; Pub. L. 96-294, title VI, § 641(2), June 30, 1980, 94 Stat. 769; Pub. L. 102-558, title III, § 301, Oct. 28, 1992, 106 Stat. 4224, related to period of guaranties and interest assistance.

Section 1144, Pub. L. 93-410, title II, § 204, Sept. 3, 1974, 88 Stat. 1087; Pub. L. 95-91, title III, § 301(a), title VII, §§ 703, 707, Aug. 4, 1977, 91 Stat. 577, 606, 607; Pub. L. 95-238, title V, § 511, Feb. 25, 1978, 92 Stat. 89, related to Geothermal Resources Development Fund.

Section 1145, Pub. L. 93-410, title II, § 205, as added Pub. L. 95-238, title V, § 512, Feb. 25, 1978, 92 Stat. 89; amended Pub. L. 95-91, title III, § 301(a), title VII, §§ 703, 707, Aug. 4, 1977, 91 Stat. 577, 606, 607, related to community impact assistance functions of Secretary of Energy.

Section 1146, Pub. L. 93-410, title II, § 206, as added Pub. L. 96-294, title VI, § 641(3), June 30, 1980, 94 Stat. 769, related to approval or disapproval of loan guarantee applications.

Section 1147, Pub. L. 93-410, title II, § 207, as added Pub. L. 96-294, title VI, § 641(3), June 30, 1980, 94 Stat. 769, related to application of national environmental policy provisions.

Section 1161, Pub. L. 93-410, title III, § 301, Sept. 3, 1974, 88 Stat. 1088, related to protection of environment.

Section 1162, Pub. L. 93-410, title III, § 302, Sept. 3, 1974, 88 Stat. 1088; Pub. L. 104-66, title I, § 1051(m), Dec. 21, 1995, 109 Stat. 717, related to final report to President and Congress on terminated projects.

Section 1163, Pub. L. 93-410, title III, § 303, Sept. 3, 1974, 88 Stat. 1088, related to transfer of functions.

Section 1164, Pub. L. 93-410, title III, § 304, Sept. 3, 1974, 88 Stat. 1089, related to authorization of appropriations.

#### Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

##### SHORT TITLE

Pub. L. 93-410, § 1, Sept. 3, 1974, 88 Stat. 1079, provided that Pub. L. 93-410 (enacting this chapter) could be cited as the "Geothermal Energy Research, Development, and Demonstration Act of 1974", prior to repeal by Pub. L. 116-260, div. Z, title III, § 3002(i)(3), Dec. 27, 2020, 134 Stat. 2495.

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#### SUBCHAPTER I—STATEMENT OF FINDINGS AND POLICY

### § 1201. Congressional findings

The Congress finds and declares that—

(a) extraction of coal and other minerals from the earth can be accomplished by various methods of mining, including surface mining;

(b) coal mining operations presently contribute significantly to the Nation's energy requirements; surface coal mining constitutes one method of extraction of the resource; the overwhelming percentage of the Nation's coal reserves can only be extracted by underground mining methods, and it is, therefore, essential to the national interest to insure the existence of an expanding and economically healthy underground coal mining industry;

(c) many surface mining operations result in disturbances of surface areas that burden and adversely affect commerce and the public welfare by destroying or diminishing the utility of land for commercial, industrial, residential, recreational, agricultural, and forestry purposes, by causing erosion and landslides, by contributing to floods, by polluting the water, by destroying fish and wildlife habitats, by impairing natural beauty, by damaging the property of citizens, by creating hazards dangerous to life and property by degrading the quality of life in local communities, and by

counteracting governmental programs and efforts to conserve soil, water, and other natural resources;

(d) the expansion of coal mining to meet the Nation's energy needs makes even more urgent the establishment of appropriate standards to minimize damage to the environment and to productivity of the soil and to protect the health and safety of the public.<sup>1</sup>

(e) surface mining and reclamation technology are now developed so that effective and reasonable regulation of surface coal mining operations by the States and by the Federal Government in accordance with the requirements of this chapter is an appropriate and necessary means to minimize so far as practicable the adverse social, economic, and environmental effects of such mining operations;

(f) because of the diversity in terrain, climate, biologic, chemical, and other physical conditions in areas subject to mining operations, the primary governmental responsibility for developing, authorizing, issuing, and enforcing regulations for surface mining and reclamation operations subject to this chapter should rest with the States;

(g) surface mining and reclamation standards are essential in order to insure that competition in interstate commerce among sellers of coal produced in different States will not be used to undermine the ability of the several States to improve and maintain adequate standards on coal mining operations within their borders;

(h) there are a substantial number of acres of land throughout major regions of the United States disturbed by surface and underground coal on which little or no reclamation was conducted, and the impacts from these unreclaimed lands impose social and economic costs on residents in nearby and adjoining areas as well as continuing to impair environmental quality;

(i) while there is a need to regulate surface mining operations for minerals other than coal, more data and analyses are needed to serve as a basis for effective and reasonable regulation of such operations;

(j) surface and underground coal mining operations affect interstate commerce, contribute to the economic well-being, security, and general welfare of the Nation and should be conducted in an environmentally sound manner; and

(k) the cooperative effort established by this chapter is necessary to prevent or mitigate adverse environmental effects of present and future surface coal mining operations.

(Pub. L. 95-87, title I, § 101, Aug. 3, 1977, 91 Stat. 447.)

#### Editorial Notes

##### REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in pars. (e), (f), and (k), was in the original "this Act", meaning Pub. L. 95-87, Aug. 3, 1977, 91 Stat. 445, which enacted this chapter and amended section 1114 of Title 18, Crimes and Criminal Procedure. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out below and Tables.

<sup>1</sup> So in original. The period probably should be a semicolon.