

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in subsec. (a), was in the original “this Act”, meaning act Aug. 1, 1946, ch. 724, as added by act Aug. 30, 1954, ch. 1073, §1, 68 Stat. 919, known as the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, which is classified principally to this chapter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 2011 of this title and Tables.

AMENDMENTS

2005—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 109-58 inserted “from the authorization to commence operations” after “forty years”.

1980—Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 96-295 added subsec. (f).

1970—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 91-560 struck out requirement of a finding of practical value under section 2132 and substituted “utilization and production facilities for industrial or commercial purposes” for “such type of utilization or production facility”.

1956—Subsec. (a). Act Aug. 6, 1956, §12, inserted “use,” after “possess,”.

Subsec. (d). Act Aug. 6, 1956, §13, inserted “an alien or any” after “issued to”.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

ADVANCED NUCLEAR REACTOR PROGRAM LICENSING

Pub. L. 115-439, title I, §103(a), Jan. 14, 2019, 132 Stat. 5571, provided that:

“(1) STAGED LICENSING.—For the purpose of predictable, efficient, and timely reviews, not later than 270 days after the date of enactment of this Act [Jan. 14, 2019], the [Nuclear Regulatory] Commission shall develop and implement, within the existing regulatory framework, strategies for—

“(A) establishing stages in the licensing process for commercial advanced nuclear reactors; and

“(B) developing procedures and processes for—

“(i) using a licensing project plan; and

“(ii) optional use of a conceptual design assessment.

“(2) RISK-INFORMED LICENSING.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commission shall develop and implement, where appropriate, strategies for the increased use of risk-informed, performance-based licensing evaluation techniques and guidance for commercial advanced nuclear reactors within the existing regulatory framework, including evaluation techniques and guidance for the resolution of the following:

“(A) Applicable policy issues identified during the course of review by the Commission of a commercial advanced nuclear reactor licensing application.

“(B) The issues described in SECY-93-092 and SECY-15-077, including—

“(i) licensing basis event selection and evaluation;

“(ii) source terms;

“(iii) containment performance; and

“(iv) emergency preparedness.

“(3) RESEARCH AND TEST REACTOR LICENSING.—For the purpose of predictable, efficient, and timely reviews, not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commission shall develop and implement strategies within the existing regulatory framework for licensing research and test reactors, including the issuance of guidance.

“(4) TECHNOLOGY-INCLUSIVE REGULATORY FRAMEWORK.—Not later than December 31, 2027, the Commission shall complete a rulemaking to establish a technology-inclusive, regulatory framework for optional use by commercial advanced nuclear reactor applicants for new reactor license applications.

“(5) TRAINING AND EXPERTISE.—As soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commission shall provide for staff training or the hiring of experts, as necessary—

“(A) to support the activities described in paragraphs (1) through (4); and

“(B) to support preparations—

“(i) to conduct pre-application interactions; and

“(ii) to review commercial advanced nuclear reactor license applications.

“(6) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Commission to carry out this subsection \$14,420,000 for each of fiscal years 2020 through 2024.”

[For definitions of terms used in section 103(a) of Pub. L. 115-439, set out above, see section 3 of Pub. L. 115-439, set out as a note under section 2215 of this title.]

§ 2134. Medical, industrial, and commercial licenses**(a) Medical therapy**

The Commission is authorized to issue licenses to persons applying therefor for utilization facilities for use in medical therapy. In issuing such licenses the Commission is directed to permit the widest amount of effective medical therapy possible with the amount of special nuclear material available for such purposes and to impose the minimum amount of regulation consistent with its obligations under this chapter to promote the common defense and security and to protect the health and safety of the public.

(b) Industrial and commercial purposes

As provided for in subsection (b) or (c) of section 2132 of this title, or where specifically authorized by law, the Commission is authorized to issue licenses under this subsection to persons applying therefor for utilization and production facilities for industrial and commercial purposes. In issuing licenses under this subsection, the Commission shall impose the minimum amount of such regulations and terms of license as will permit the Commission to fulfill its obligations under this chapter.

(c) Research and development activities

The Commission is authorized to issue licenses to persons applying therefor for utilization and production facilities useful in the conduct of research and development activities of the types specified in section 2051 of this title. The Commission is directed to impose only such minimum amount of regulation of the licensee as the Commission finds will permit the Commission to fulfill its obligations under this chapter to promote the common defense and security and to protect the health and safety of the public and will permit the conduct of widespread and diverse research and development. The Commission is authorized to issue licenses under this section for utilization facilities useful in the conduct of research and development activities of the types specified in section 2051 of this title in which the licensee sells research and testing services and energy to others, subject to the condition that the licensee shall recover not more than 75 percent of the annual costs to the licensee of owning and operating the facility through sales of nonenergy services, energy, or both, other than research and development or education and training, of which not more than 50 percent may be through sales of energy.

(d) Limitations

No license under this section may be given to any person for activities which are not under or

within the jurisdiction of the United States, except for the export of production or utilization facilities under terms of an agreement for co-operation arranged pursuant to section 2153 of this title or except under the provisions of section 2139 of this title. No license may be issued to any corporation or other entity if the Commission knows or has reason to believe it is owned, controlled, or dominated by an alien, a foreign corporation, or a foreign government. In any event, no license may be issued to any person within the United States if, in the opinion of the Commission, the issuance of a license to such person would be inimical to the common defense and security or to the health and safety of the public.

(Aug. 1, 1946, ch. 724, title I, §104, as added Aug. 30, 1954, ch. 1073, §1, 68 Stat. 937; amended Pub. L. 91-560, §5, Dec. 19, 1970, 84 Stat. 1472; renumbered title I, Pub. L. 102-486, title IX, §902(a)(8), Oct. 24, 1992, 106 Stat. 2944; Pub. L. 115-439, title I, §106(b), Jan. 14, 2019, 132 Stat. 5577.)

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This chapter, referred to in subsecs. (a) to (c), was in the original “this Act”, meaning act Aug. 1, 1946, ch. 724, as added by act Aug. 30, 1954, ch. 1073, §1, 68 Stat. 919, known as the Atomic Energy Act of 1954, which is classified principally to this chapter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 2011 of this title and Tables.

AMENDMENTS

2019—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 115-439 struck out “and which are not facilities of the type specified in subsection (b)” after “section 2051 of this title” and inserted at end “The Commission is authorized to issue licenses under this section for utilization facilities useful in the conduct of research and development activities of the types specified in section 2051 of this title in which the licensee sells research and testing services and energy to others, subject to the condition that the licensee shall recover not more than 75 percent of the annual costs to the licensee of owning and operating the facility through sales of nonenergy services, energy, or both, other than research and development or education and training, of which not more than 50 percent may be through sales of energy.”

1970—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 91-560 substituted provisions authorizing the issue of licenses for utilization or production facilities for industrial or commercial purposes (i) where specifically authorized by law or (ii) where the facility was constructed or operated under an arrangement with the Commission entered into under the cooperative power reactor demonstration program, and the applicable statutory authorization does not require licensing under section 2133, or (iii) where the facility was theretofore licensed under section 2134(b), for provisions authorizing the issue of licenses for utilization and production facilities involved in the conduct of research and development activities leading to the demonstration of the practical value of such facilities for industrial and commercial purposes.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

ENCOURAGING PRIVATE INVESTMENT IN RESEARCH AND TEST REACTORS

Pub. L. 115-439, title I, §106(a), Jan. 14, 2019, 132 Stat. 5577, provided that: “The purpose of this section [amending this section] is to encourage private investment in research and test reactors.”

§ 2135. Antitrust provisions governing licenses

(a) Violations of antitrust laws

Nothing contained in this chapter shall relieve any person from the operation of the following Acts, as amended, “An Act to protect trade and commerce against unlawful restraints and monopolies” approved July second, eighteen hundred and ninety; sections seventy-three to seventy-six, inclusive, of an Act entitled “An Act to reduce taxation, to provide revenue for the Government, and for other purposes” approved August twenty-seven, eighteen hundred and ninety-four; “An Act to supplement existing laws against unlawful restraints and monopolies, and for other purposes” approved October fifteen, nineteen hundred and fourteen; and “An Act to create a Federal Trade Commission, to define its powers and duties, and for other purposes” approved September twenty-six, nineteen hundred and fourteen. In the event a licensee is found by a court of competent jurisdiction, either in an original action in that court or in a proceeding to enforce or review the findings or orders of any Government agency having jurisdiction under the laws cited above, to have violated any of the provisions of such laws in the conduct of the licensed activity, the Commission may suspend, revoke, or take such other action as it may deem necessary with respect to any license issued by the Commission under the provisions of this chapter.

(b) Reports to Attorney General

The Commission shall report promptly to the Attorney General any information it may have with respect to any utilization of special nuclear material or atomic energy which appears to violate or to tend toward the violation of any of the foregoing Acts, or to restrict free competition in private enterprise.

(c) Transmissions to Attorney General of copies of license applications; publication of advice; factors considered; exceptions

(1) The Commission shall promptly transmit to the Attorney General a copy of any license application provided for in paragraph (2) of this subsection, and a copy of any written request provided for in paragraph (3) of this subsection; and the Attorney General shall, within a reasonable time, but in no event to exceed 180 days after receiving a copy of such application or written request, render such advice to the Commission as he determines to be appropriate in regard to the finding to be made by the Commission pursuant to paragraph (5) of this subsection. Such advice shall include an explanatory statement as to the reasons or basis therefor.

(2) Paragraph (1) of this subsection shall apply to an application for a license to construct or operate a utilization or production facility under section 2133 of this title: *Provided, however,* That paragraph (1) shall not apply to an application for a license to operate a utilization or production facility for which a construction permit was issued under section 2133 of this title unless the Commission determines such review is advisable on the ground that significant changes in the licensee’s activities or proposed activities have occurred subsequent to the pre-