

(v) the condition and regulatory compliance of any site improvements; and

(vi) any other typical value influences described in standard appraisal literature.

(4) ADJUSTMENTS TO SALES OF COMPARABLE PARCELS.—

(A) UTILITIES, ACCESS, OR FACILITIES.—

(i) AGENCY.—Utilities, access, or facilities serving a lot that are provided by the agency shall be included as features of the lot being appraised.

(ii) CABIN OWNERS.—Utilities, access, or facilities serving a lot that are provided by the cabin owner (or a predecessor of the cabin owner) shall not be included as a feature of the lot being appraised.

(iii) THIRD PARTIES.—Utilities, access, or facilities serving a lot that are provided by a third party shall not be included as a feature of the lot being appraised unless, in accordance with subsection (a)(1), the agency determines that the capital costs have not been or are not being paid by the cabin owner (or a predecessor of the cabin owner).

(iv) WITHDRAWAL OF UTILITY OR ACCESS BY AGENCY.—If, during the term of an authorization, the agency or an act of God creates a substantial and materially adverse change in—

(I) the provision or maintenance of any utility or access; or

(II) a qualitative feature of the lot or immediate surroundings; the cabin owner shall have the right to request, and, at the discretion of the Secretary, obtain a new determination of the base cabin user fee at the expense of the agency.

(B) ADJUSTMENT FOR EXCLUSION.—In a case in which any comparable sale includes utilities, access, or facilities that are to be excluded in the appraisal of the subject lot, the price of the comparable sale shall be adjusted, as appropriate.

(C) ADJUSTMENT PROCESS.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—The appraiser shall consider and adjust, as appropriate, the price of each sale of a comparable parcel for all nonnatural features referred to in subparagraph (A)(ii) that—

(I)(aa) are present at, or add value to, the comparable parcel; but

(bb) are not present at the lot being appraised; or

(II) are not included in the appraisal as described in subparagraph (A).

(ii) ADJUSTMENTS.—

(I) IN GENERAL.—In a case in which the price of a parcel sold is to be adjusted in accordance with subparagraph (B), the adjustment may be based on an analysis of market or cost information or both.

(II) COST INFORMATION.—If cost information is used as the basis of an adjustment under subsection (I), the cost information shall be supported by direct market evidence.

(iii) ANALYSIS OF COST INFORMATION.—An analysis of cost information under clause (ii)(I) should include allowances, as appropriate, if the allowances are consistent with—

(I) the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice in effect on the date of the analysis; and

(II) the Uniform Appraisal Standards for Federal Land Acquisition.

(D) REAPPRAISAL FOR AND RECALCULATION OF BASE CABIN USER FEE.—Periodically, but not less often than once every 10 years, the Secretary shall recalculate the base cabin user fee (including conducting any reappraisal required to recalculate the base cabin user fee).

SEC. 607. CABIN USER FEES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish the cabin user fee as the amount that is equal to 5 percent of the market value of the lot, as determined in accordance with section 606, reflecting an adjustment to the typical market rate of return due to restrictions imposed by the permit, including—

(1) the limited term of the authorization;

(2) the absence of significant property rights normally attached to fee simple ownership; and

(3) the public right of access to, and use of, any open portion of the lot on which the cabin or other enclosed improvements are not located.

(b) FEE FOR CARETAKER CABIN.—The base cabin user fee for a lot on which a caretaker cabin is located shall not be greater than the base cabin user fee charged for the authorized use of a similar typical lot in the tract.

(c) ANNUAL CABIN USER FEE IN THE EVENT OF DETERMINATION NOT TO REISSUE AUTHORIZATION.—If the Secretary determines that an authorization should not be reissued at the end of a term, the Secretary shall—

(1) establish as the new base cabin user fee for the remaining term of the authorization the amount charged as the cabin user fee in the year that was 10 years before the year in which the authorization expires; and

(2) calculate the current cabin user fee for each of the remaining 9 years of the term of the authorization by multiplying—

(A) $\frac{1}{10}$ of the new base cabin user fee; by

(B) the number of years remaining in the term of the authorization after the year for which the cabin user fee is being calculated.

(d) ANNUAL CABIN USER FEE IN EVENT OF CHANGED CONDITIONS.—If a review of a decision to convert a lot to an alternative public use indicates that the continuation of the authorization for use and occupancy of the cabin by the cabin owner is warranted, and the decision is subsequently reversed, the Secretary may require the cabin owner to pay any portion of annual cabin user fees that were forgone as a result of the expectation of termination of use and occupancy of the cabin by the cabin owner.

(e) TERMINATION OF FEE OBLIGATION IN LOSS RESULTING FROM ACTS OF GOD OR CATASTROPHIC EVENTS.—On a determination by the agency that, because of an act of God or a catastrophic event, a lot cannot be safely occupied and the authorization for the lot should accordingly be terminated, the fee obligation of the cabin owner shall terminate effective on the date of the occurrence of the act or event.

SEC. 608. ANNUAL ADJUSTMENT OF CABIN USER FEE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall adjust the cabin user fee annually, using a rolling 5-year average of a published price index in accordance with subsection (b) or (c) that reports changes in rural or similar land values in the State, county, or market area in which the lot is located.

(b) INITIAL INDEX.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—For the period of 10 years beginning on the date of enactment of this title, the Secretary shall use changes in agricultural land prices in the appropriate State or county, as reported in the Index of Agricultural Land Prices published by the Department of Agriculture, to determine the annual adjustment to the cabin user fee in accordance with subsections (a) and (d).

(2) STATEWIDE CHANGES.—In determining the annual adjustment to the cabin user fee for an authorization located in a county in which agricultural land prices are influenced by the value influences described in section 606(b)(3), the Secretary shall use average statewide changes in the State in which the lot is located.

(c) NEW INDEX.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 10 years after the date of enactment of this title, the Secretary may select and use an index other than the method of adjustment of a cabin user fee described in subsection (b)(2) to adjust a cabin user fee if the Secretary determines that a different index better reflects change in the value of a lot over time.

(2) SELECTION PROCESS.—Before selecting a new index, the Secretary shall—

(A) solicit and consider comments from the public; and

(B) not later than 60 days before the date on which the Secretary makes a final index selec-

tion, submit any proposed selection of a new index to—

(i) the Committee on Resources of the House of Representatives; and

(ii) the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate.

(d) LIMITATION.—In calculating an annual adjustment to the base cabin user fee as determined by the initial index described in section (b), the Secretary shall—

(1) limit any annual fee adjustment to an amount that is not more than 5 percent per year when the change in agricultural land values exceeds 5 percent in any 1 year; and

(2) apply the amount of any adjustment that exceeds 5 percent to the annual fee payment for the next year in which the change in the index factor is less than 5 percent.

SEC. 609. PAYMENT OF CABIN USER FEES.

(a) DUE DATE FOR PAYMENT OF FEES.—A cabin user fee shall be prepaid annually by the cabin owner.

(b) PAYMENT OF EQUAL OR LESSER FEE.—If, in accordance with section 607, the Secretary determines that the amount of a new base cabin user fee is equal to or less than the amount of the current base cabin user fee, the Secretary shall require payment of the new base cabin user fee by the cabin owner in accordance with subsection (a).

(c) PAYMENT OF GREATER FEE.—If, in accordance with section 607, the Secretary determines that the amount of a new base cabin user fee is greater than the amount of the current base cabin user fee, the Secretary shall—

(1) require full payment of the new base cabin user fee in the first year following completion of the fee determination procedure if the increase in the amount of the new base cabin user fee is not more than 100 percent of the current base cabin user fee; or

(2) phase in the increase over the current base cabin user fee in approximately equal increments over 3 years if the increase in the amount of the new base cabin user fee is more than 100 percent of the current base cabin user fee.

SEC. 610. RIGHT OF SECOND APPRAISAL.

(a) RIGHT OF SECOND APPRAISAL.—On receipt of notice from the Secretary of the determination of a new base cabin user fee, the cabin owner—

(1) not later than 60 days after the date on which the notice is received, may notify the Secretary of the intent of the cabin owner to obtain a second appraisal; and

(2) may obtain, within 1 year following the date of receipt of the notice under this subsection, at the expense of the cabin owner, a second appraisal of the typical lot on which the initial appraisal was conducted.

(b) CONDUCT OF SECOND APPRAISAL.—In conducting a second appraisal, the appraiser selected by the cabin owner shall—

(1) have qualifications equivalent to the appraiser that conducted the initial appraisal in accordance with section 606(a)(4);

(2) use the appraisal guidelines used in the initial appraisal in accordance with section 606(a)(5);

(3) consider all relevant factors in accordance with this title (including guidelines developed under section 606(a)(3)); and

(4) notify the Secretary of any material differences of fact or opinion between the initial appraisal conducted by the agency and the second appraisal.

(c) REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION OF BASE CABIN USER FEE.—A cabin owner shall submit to the Secretary any request for reconsideration of the base cabin user fee, based on the results of the second appraisal, not later than 60 days after the receipt of the report for the second appraisal.

(d) RECONSIDERATION OF BASE CABIN USER FEE.—On receipt of a request from the cabin owner under subsection (c) for reconsideration of a base cabin user fee, not later than 60 days

after the date of receipt of the request, the Secretary shall—

- (1) review the initial appraisal of the agency;
- (2) review the results and commentary from the second appraisal;
- (3) determine a new base cabin user fee in an amount that is—

- (A) equal to the base cabin user fee determined by the initial or the second appraisal; or
- (B) within the range of values, if any, between the initial and second appraisals; and
- (4) notify the cabin owner of the amount of the new base cabin user fee.

SEC. 611. RIGHT OF APPEAL AND JUDICIAL REVIEW.

(a) **RIGHT OF APPEAL.**—Notwithstanding any action of a cabin owner to exercise rights in accordance with section 610, the Secretary shall by regulation grant the cabin owner the right to an administrative appeal of the determination of a new base cabin user fee.

(b) **JUDICIAL REVIEW.**—A cabin owner that is adversely affected by a final decision of the Secretary under this title may bring a civil action in United States district court.

SEC. 612. CONSISTENCY WITH OTHER LAW AND RIGHTS.

(a) **CONSISTENCY WITH RIGHTS OF THE UNITED STATES.**—Nothing in this title limits or restricts any right, title, or interest of the United States in or to any land or resource.

(b) **SPECIAL RULE FOR ALASKA.**—In determining a cabin user fee in the State of Alaska, the Secretary shall not establish or impose a cabin user fee or a condition affecting a cabin user fee that is inconsistent with 1303(d) of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 3193(d)).

SEC. 613. REGULATIONS.

Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this title, the Secretary shall promulgate regulations to carry out this title.

SEC. 614. TRANSITION PROVISIONS.

(a) **ASSESSMENT OF ANNUAL FEES.**—For the period of time determined under subsection (b), the Secretary shall charge each cabin owner an annual fee as follows:

(1) **LOTS NOT APPRAISED SINCE SEPTEMBER 30, 1995.**—For a lot that has not been appraised since September 30, 1995, the annual fee shall be equal to the amount of the annual fee in effect on the date of enactment of this title, adjusted annually to reflect changes in the Implicit Price Deflator-Gross National Product Index.

(2) **LOTS APPRAISED ON OR AFTER SEPTEMBER 30, 1995.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), for a lot that has been appraised on or after September 30, 1995, the annual fee shall be equal to the amount of the fee in effect on the date of enactment of this title, adjusted annually to reflect changes in the Implicit Price Deflator-Gross National Product Index.

(B) **APPRAISALS RESULTING IN BASE FEE INCREASE.**—

(i) **IN GENERAL.**—Except as provided in clause (ii), for a lot that has been appraised on or after September 30, 1995, for which the appraisal resulted in an increase of the base fee by an amount greater than \$3,000, the annual fee shall be equal to the sum of \$3,000 plus the amount of the annual fee in effect on October 1, 1996, adjusted annually to reflect the percentage change in the Implicit Price Deflator-Gross National Product Index.

(ii) **FEES PAID AFTER REQUEST OF NEW APPRAISAL OR PEER REVIEW.**—If—

(I) the cabin owner of a lot described in clause (i) requests a new appraisal or peer review under subsection (c); and

(II) the base cabin user fee established as a result of the appraisal or peer review is determined to be an amount that is 90 percent or more of the fee in effect for the lot as determined by an appraisal conducted on or after September 30, 1995;

the Secretary shall charge the cabin owner, in addition to the annual fee that would otherwise

have been due under section 609, the difference between the base cabin user fee determined through the conduct of the new appraisal or peer review and the annual fee that would otherwise have been due under section 609, to be assessed retroactively for each year beginning with the year in which the previous appraisal was conducted, and to be paid in 3 equal annual installments.

(b) **TERM.**—

(1) **LOTS NOT APPRAISED SINCE SEPTEMBER 30, 1995.**—For a lot that has not been appraised since September 30, 1995, the Secretary shall charge fees in accordance with subsection (a)(2)(A) until—

(A) a base cabin user fee is determined in accordance with—

- (i) this title; or
- (ii) regulations and policies in effect on the date of enactment of this title; and
- (B) the right of the cabin owner to a second appraisal under section 610 is exhausted.

(2) **LOTS APPRAISED ON OR AFTER SEPTEMBER 30, 1995.**—For a lot that has been appraised on or after September 30, 1995, the Secretary shall charge fees under subsection (a)(2) until—

(A) the cabin owner requests a new appraisal or peer review, and a base cabin user fee is established, under subsection (c); or

(B) in the absence of a request for a peer review or a new appraisal under subsection (c), the date that is 2 years after the date on which the Forest Service promulgates regulations and policies and develops appraisal guidelines under this title.

(c) **REQUEST FOR NEW APPRAISAL UNDER NEW LAW.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 2 years after the promulgation of final regulations and policies and the development of appraisal guidelines in accordance with section 606(a)(5), cabin owners that are subject to appraisals completed after September 30, 1995, but before the date of promulgation of final regulations under section 613, may request, in accordance with paragraph (2), that the Secretary—

(A) conduct a new appraisal and determine a new base cabin user fee in accordance with this title; or

(B) commission a peer review of the existing appraisals in accordance with paragraph (4).

(2) **APPRAISAL GROUPINGS BY TYPICAL LOT.**—A request for a new appraisal or for a peer review of existing appraisals under paragraph (1) shall be made by a majority of the cabin owners in a group of cabins represented in the appraisal process by a typical lot.

(3) **CONDUCT OF NEW APPRAISAL.**—On receipt of a request for an appraisal and fee determination in accordance with paragraph (2), the Secretary shall conduct the new appraisal and fee determination in accordance with this title.

(4) **PEER REVIEW OF EXISTING APPRAISALS.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—On receipt of a request for peer review in accordance with paragraph (2), the Secretary shall obtain from an independent professional appraisal organization a review of the appraisal (including any report on the appraisal) that was used to establish the estimated fee simple value of the lots within the subject grouping.

(B) **INCONSISTENCY.**—If peer review described in subparagraph (A) results in a determination that an appraisal or appraisal report includes provisions or procedures that were implemented or conducted in a manner inconsistent with this title, the Secretary shall, as appropriate and in accordance with this title—

- (i) revise an existing base cabin user fee; or
- (ii) subject to an agreement with the cabin owners, conduct a new appraisal and fee determination.

(5) **PAYMENT OF COSTS.**—Cabin owners and the Secretary shall share, in equal proportion, the payment of all reasonable costs of any new appraisal or peer review.

(d) **ASSUMPTION OF NEW BASE CABIN USER FEE.**—In the absence of a request under sub-

section (c) for a new appraisal and fee determination from a cabin owner whose cabin user fee was determined as a result of an appraisal conducted after September 30, 1995, but before the date of promulgation of final regulations under section 613, the Secretary may consider the base cabin user fee resulting from the appraisal conducted between September 30, 1995 and the date of promulgation of the final regulations under section 613 to be the base cabin user fee that complies with this section.

TITLE VII—TREATMENT OF CERTAIN FUNDS FOR MINER BENEFITS

SEC. 701. (a) **REALLOCATION OF INTEREST.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, interest credited to the fund established by section 401 of the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 (30 U.S.C. 1231) for fiscal years 1992 through 1995 not transferred to the Combined Fund identified in section 402(h)(2) of such Act prior to the date of enactment of this Act shall be transferred to such Combined Fund—

(1) in such amounts as estimated by the trustees of such Fund to offset the amount of any deficit in net assets in the Combined Fund through August 31, 2001;

(2) in the amount of \$2,200,000 for the purpose of the Combined Fund providing a refund of any premium (as described in section 9704(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1988), on a proportional basis, to those signatory operators or any related persons to such operators (as defined in section 9701(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1988) who have been denied such refunds as the result of final judgments or settlements if prior to the date of enactment of this Act such signatory operator (or any related persons to such operator)—

(A) had all of its beneficiary assignments made under section 9706 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 voided by the Commissioner of the Social Security Administration;

(B) was subject to a final judgment or final settlement of litigation adverse to a claim by such operator that the assignment of beneficiaries under section 9706 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 was unconstitutional as applied to it; and

(C) paid to the Combined Fund any premium amount that had not been refunded; and

(3) in such amounts as necessary for the purpose of the Combined Fund providing a monthly refund of any premium (as described in section 9704(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986) paid by an assigned operator (as defined by section 9701(c)(5) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986) commencing with the first monthly premium due date after the date of enactment of this Act and ending August 31, 2001, if according to the records of the Combined Fund such operator (or any related persons of such operator)—

(A) was not a signatory to the 1981 or later National Bituminous Coal Wage Agreement or any “me too” agreement related to such Coal Wage Agreement;

(B) reported credit hours to the UMWA 1974 Pension Plan on fewer than ten classified mine workers in every month during its last year of operations under the National Bituminous Coal Wage Agreement of 1978 or any “me too” agreement related to such Coal Wage Agreement;

(C) has had not more than 60 beneficiaries, including eligible dependents of retired miners, assigned to it under section 9706 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 not including beneficiary assignments relieved by the Social Security Administration;

(D) was assessed premiums by the Combined Fund in October 1999, made payments pursuant to that assessment and has no delinquency as of September 30, 2000; and

(E) is not directly engaged in the production or sale of coal and has no related person engaged in the production of coal as of September 30, 2000.