

(b) Purpose

The purpose of the program established under this section shall be to train appropriate persons in the system design, operation, and maintenance of renewable energy and energy efficiency equipment manufactured in the United States, including equipment for water pumping, heating and purification, and the production of electric power in remote areas.

(c) Authorization of appropriations

There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary \$6,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 1994, 1995, and 1996, to carry out this section.

(Pub. L. 102-486, title XII, §1203, Oct. 24, 1992, 106 Stat. 2961.)

§ 13313. Renewable Energy Advancement Awards**(a) Authority**

The Secretary shall make Renewable Energy Advancement Awards in recognition of developments that advance the practical application of biomass, geothermal, hydroelectric, photovoltaic, solar thermal, ocean thermal, and wind technologies to consumer, utility, or industrial uses, in accordance with this section. Except as provided in subsection (f), Renewable Energy Advancement Awards shall include a cash award.

(b) Selection criteria

The Secretary, in consultation with the Advisory Committee on Demonstration and Commercial Application of Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Technologies (in this section referred to as the "Advisory Committee"), under section 12005 of this title, shall develop criteria to be applied in the selection of award recipients under this section. Such criteria shall include the following:

- (1) The degree to which the technological development increases the utilization of renewable energy.
- (2) The degree to which the development will have a significant impact, by benefitting a large number of people, by reducing the costs of an important industrial process or commercial product or service, or otherwise.
- (3) The ingenuity of the development.
- (4) Whether the application has significant export potential.
- (5) The environmental soundness of the development.

(c) Selection

Beginning in fiscal year 1994, and annually thereafter for a period of 10 years, the Secretary, in consultation with the Advisory Committee, shall select developments described in subsection (a) that are worthy of receiving an award under this section, and shall make such awards.

(d) Eligibility

Awards may be made under this section only to individuals who are United States nationals or permanent resident aliens, or to non-Federal organizations that are organized under the laws of the United States or the laws of a State of the United States.

(e) Authorization of appropriations

There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary \$50,000 for each of the fiscal years 1994, 1995, and 1996 for carrying out this section.

(f) Awards made in absence of appropriations

The Secretary shall make honorary awards under this section if sufficient funds are not available for financial awards in any fiscal year.

(Pub. L. 102-486, title XII, §1204, Oct. 24, 1992, 106 Stat. 2961.)

§ 13314. Study of tax and rate treatment of renewable energy projects

(a) The Secretary, in conjunction with State regulatory commissions, shall undertake a study to determine if conventional taxation and ratemaking procedures result in economic barriers to or incentives for renewable energy power plants compared to conventional power plants.

(b) Within 1 year after October 24, 1992, the Secretary shall submit a report to the Congress on the results of the study undertaken under subsection (a).

(Pub. L. 102-486, title XII, §1205, Oct. 24, 1992, 106 Stat. 2962.)

§ 13315. Data system and energy technology evaluation

The Secretary of Commerce, in his or her role as a member of the interagency working group established under section 6276 of this title, shall—

(1) develop a comprehensive data base and information dissemination system, using the National Trade Data Bank and the Commercial Information Management System of the Department of Commerce, that will provide information on the specific energy technology needs of foreign countries, and the technical and economic competitiveness of various renewable energy and energy efficiency products and technologies;

(2) make such information available to industry, Federal and multilateral lending agencies, nongovernmental organizations, host-country and donor-agency officials, and such others as the Secretary of Commerce considers necessary; and

(3) prepare and transmit to the Congress not later than June 1, 1993, and biennially thereafter, a comprehensive report evaluating the full range of energy and environmental technologies necessary to meet the energy needs of foreign countries, including—

(A) information on the specific energy needs of foreign countries;

(B) an inventory of United States technologies and services to meet those needs;

(C) an update on the status of ongoing bilateral and multilateral programs which promote United States exports of renewable energy and energy efficiency products and technologies; and

(D) an evaluation of current programs (and recommendations for future programs) that develop and promote energy efficiency and sustainable use of indigenous renewable en-