

control and systems viability for extended mission durations.

(4) Current radioisotope power systems supplies and production will not fully support NASA missions planned even in the next decade and, without a new domestic production capability, the United States will no longer have the means to explore the majority of the solar system by the end of this decade.

(5) Continuing to rely on Russia or other foreign sources for radioisotope power system fuel production is not a secure option.

(6) Reestablishing domestic production will require a long lead-time. Thus, meeting future space exploration mission needs requires that a restart project begin at the earliest opportunity.

**(b) In general**

The Administrator shall, in coordination with the Secretary of Energy, pursue a joint approach beginning in fiscal year 2011 towards restarting and sustaining the domestic production of radioisotope thermoelectric generator material for deep space and other science and exploration missions. Funds authorized by this chapter for NASA shall be made available under a reimbursable agreement with the Department of Energy for the purpose of reestablishing facilities to produce fuel required for radioisotope thermoelectric generators to enable future missions.

**(c) Report**

Within 120 days after October 11, 2010, the Administrator and the Secretary of Energy shall submit a joint report to the appropriate committees of Congress on coordinated agreements, planned implementation, and anticipated schedule, production quantities, and mission applications under this section.

(Pub. L. 111–267, title VIII, § 806, Oct. 11, 2010, 124 Stat. 2833.)

**§ 18386. Collaboration with ESMD and SOMD on robotic missions**

The Administrator shall ensure that the Exploration Systems Mission Directorate and the Space Operations Mission Directorate coordinate with the Science Mission Directorate on an overall approach and plan for interagency and international collaboration on robotic missions that are NASA or internationally developed, including lunar, Lagrangian, near-Earth orbit, and Mars spacecraft, such as the International Lunar Network. Within 90 days after October 11, 2010, the Administrator shall provide a plan to the appropriate committees of Congress for implementation of the collaborative approach required by this section. The Administrator may not cancel or initiate any Exploration Systems Mission Directorate or Science Mission Directorate robotic project before the plan is submitted to the appropriate committees of Congress.

(Pub. L. 111–267, title VIII, § 807, Oct. 11, 2010, 124 Stat. 2834.)

**§ 18387. Near-Earth object survey and policy with respect to threats posed**

**(a) Policy reaffirmation**

Congress reaffirms the policy set forth in section 20102(g) of title 51 relating to surveying near-Earth asteroids and comets.

**(b) Implementation**

The Director of the OSTP shall implement, before September 30, 2012, a policy for notifying Federal agencies and relevant emergency response institutions of an impending near-Earth object threat if near-term public safety is at risk, and assign a Federal agency or agencies to be responsible for protecting the United States and working with the international community on such threats.

(Pub. L. 111–267, title VIII, § 808, Oct. 11, 2010, 124 Stat. 2834.)

**Editorial Notes**

**CODIFICATION**

In subsec. (a), “section 20102(g) of title 51” substituted for “section 102(g) of the National Aeronautics and Space Act of 1958 (42 U.S.C. 2451(g))” on authority of Pub. L. 111–314, § 5(e), Dec. 18, 2010, 124 Stat. 3443, which Act enacted Title 51, National and Commercial Space Programs.

**§ 18388. Repealed. Pub. L. 116–181, § 2(c)(2), Oct. 21, 2020, 134 Stat. 892**

Section, Pub. L. 111–267, title VIII, § 809, Oct. 11, 2010, 124 Stat. 2834, related to space weather. See chapter 606 of Title 51, National and Commercial Space Programs.

**SUBCHAPTER VIII—AERONAUTICS AND SPACE TECHNOLOGY**

**§ 18401. Aeronautics research goals**

The Administrator should ensure that NASA maintains a strong aeronautics research portfolio ranging from fundamental research through systems research with specific research goals, including the following:

**(1) Airspace capacity**

NASA’s Aeronautics Research Mission Directorate shall address research needs of the Next Generation Air Transportation System, including the ability of the National Airspace System to handle up to 3 times the current travel demand by 2025.

**(2) Environmental sustainability**

The Directorate shall consider and pursue concepts to reduce noise, emissions, and fuel consumption while maintaining high safety standards and shall pursue research related to alternative fuels.

**(3) Aviation safety**

The Directorate shall proactively address safety challenges with new and current air vehicles and with operations in the Nation’s current and future air transportation system.

(Pub. L. 111–267, title IX, § 902, Oct. 11, 2010, 124 Stat. 2835.)

**§ 18402. Research collaboration**

**(a) Department of Defense**

The Administrator shall continue to coordinate with the Secretary of Defense, through the