

§ 6371h. Administration; detailed description in annual report

(a) The Secretary may prescribe such rules as may be necessary in order to carry out the provisions of this part.

(b) The Secretary shall include in his annual report a detailed description of the actions taken under this part in the preceding fiscal year and the actions planned to be taken in the subsequent fiscal year. Such description shall show the allocations made (including the allocations made to each State) and include information on the types of conservation measures implemented, with funds allocated, and an estimate of the energy savings achieved.

(Pub. L. 94-163, title III, §399, as added Pub. L. 95-619, title III, §302(a), Nov. 9, 1978, 92 Stat. 3247; amended Pub. L. 96-470, title II, §203(b), Oct. 19, 1980, 94 Stat. 2242.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

1980—Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 96-470 substituted “include in his annual report a detailed description” for “, within one year after November 9, 1978, and annually thereafter while funds are available under this part, submit to Congress a detailed report” and “Such description” for “Such report”.

§ 6371h-1. Energy sustainability and efficiency grants and loans for institutions

(a) Definitions

In this section:

(1) Combined heat and power

The term “combined heat and power” means the generation of electric energy and heat in a single, integrated system, with an overall thermal efficiency of 60 percent or greater on a higher-heating-value basis.

(2) District energy systems

The term “district energy systems” means systems providing thermal energy from a renewable energy source, thermal energy source, or highly efficient technology to more than 1 building or fixed energy-consuming use from 1 or more thermal-energy production facilities through pipes or other means to provide space heating, space conditioning, hot water, steam, compression, process energy, or other end uses for that energy.

(3) Energy sustainability

The term “energy sustainability” includes using a renewable energy source, thermal energy source, or a highly efficient technology for transportation, electricity generation, heating, cooling, lighting, or other energy services in fixed installations.

(4) Institution of higher education

The term “institution of higher education” has the meaning given the term in section 15801 of this title.

(5) Institutional entity

The term “institutional entity” means an institution of higher education, a public school district, a local government, a municipal utility, or a designee of 1 of those entities.

(6) Renewable energy source

The term “renewable energy source” has the meaning given the term in section 918c of title 7.

(7) Sustainable energy infrastructure

The term “sustainable energy infrastructure” means—

(A) facilities for production of energy from renewable energy sources, thermal energy sources, or highly efficient technologies, including combined heat and power or other waste heat use; and

(B) district energy systems.

(8) Thermal energy source

The term “thermal energy source” means—

(A) a natural source of cooling or heating from lake or ocean water; and

(B) recovery of useful energy that would otherwise be wasted from ongoing energy uses.

(b) Technical assistance grants

(1) In general

Subject to the availability of appropriated funds, the Secretary shall implement a program of information dissemination and technical assistance to institutional entities to assist the institutional entities in identifying, evaluating, designing, and implementing sustainable energy infrastructure projects in energy sustainability.

(2) Assistance

The Secretary shall support institutional entities in—

(A) identification of opportunities for sustainable energy infrastructure;

(B) understanding the technical and economic characteristics of sustainable energy infrastructure;

(C) utility interconnection and negotiation of power and fuel contracts;

(D) understanding financing alternatives;

(E) permitting and siting issues;

(F) obtaining case studies of similar and successful sustainable energy infrastructure systems; and

(G) reviewing and obtaining computer software for assessment, design, and operation and maintenance of sustainable energy infrastructure systems.

(3) Eligible costs for technical assistance grants

On receipt of an application of an institutional entity, the Secretary may make grants to the institutional entity to fund a portion of the cost of—

(A) feasibility studies to assess the potential for implementation or improvement of sustainable energy infrastructure;

(B) analysis and implementation of strategies to overcome barriers to project implementation, including financial, contracting, siting, and permitting barriers; and

(C) detailed engineering of sustainable energy infrastructure.

(c) Grants for energy efficiency improvement and energy sustainability

(1) Grants

(A) In general

The Secretary shall award grants to institutional entities to carry out projects to improve energy efficiency on the grounds and facilities of the institutional entity.

(B) Requirement

To the extent that applications have been submitted, grants under subparagraph (A) shall include not less than 1 grant each year to an institution of higher education in each State.

(C) Minimum funding

Not less than 50 percent of the total funding for all grants under this subsection shall be awarded in grants to institutions of higher education.

(2) Criteria

Evaluation of projects for grant funding shall be based on criteria established by the Secretary, including criteria relating to—

- (A) improvement in energy efficiency;
- (B) reduction in greenhouse gas emissions and other air emissions, including criteria air pollutants and ozone-depleting refrigerants;
- (C) increased use of renewable energy sources or thermal energy sources;
- (D) reduction in consumption of fossil fuels;
- (E) active student participation; and
- (F) need for funding assistance.

(3) Condition

As a condition of receiving a grant under this subsection, an institutional entity shall agree—

- (A) to implement a public awareness campaign concerning the project in the community in which the institutional entity is located; and
- (B) to submit to the Secretary, and make available to the public, reports on any efficiency improvements, energy cost savings, and environmental benefits achieved as part of a project carried out under paragraph (1), including quantification of the results relative to the criteria described under paragraph (2).

(d) Grants for innovation in energy sustainability

(1) Grants

(A) In general

The Secretary shall award grants to institutional entities to engage in innovative energy sustainability projects.

(B) Requirement

To the extent that applications have been submitted, grants under subparagraph (A) shall include not less than 2 grants each year to institutions of higher education in each State.

(C) Minimum funding

Not less than 50 percent of the total funding for all grants under this subsection shall

be awarded in grants to institutions of higher education.

(2) Innovation projects

An innovation project carried out with a grant under this subsection shall—

(A) involve—

- (i) an innovative technology that is not yet commercially available; or
- (ii) available technology in an innovative application that maximizes energy efficiency and sustainability;

(B) have the greatest potential for testing or demonstrating new technologies or processes; and

(C) to the extent undertaken by an institution of higher education, ensure active student participation in the project, including the planning, implementation, evaluation, and other phases of projects.

(3) Condition

As a condition of receiving a grant under this subsection, an institutional entity shall agree to submit to the Secretary, and make available to the public, reports that describe the results of the projects carried out using grant funds.

(e) Allocation to institutions of higher education with small endowments

(1) In general

Of the total amount of grants provided to institutions of higher education for a fiscal year under this section, the Secretary shall provide not less than 50 percent of the amount to institutions of higher education that have an endowment of not more than \$100,000,000.

(2) Requirement

To the extent that applications have been submitted, at least 50 percent of the amount described in paragraph (1) shall be provided to institutions of higher education that have an endowment of not more than \$50,000,000.

(f) Grant amounts

(1) In general

If the Secretary determines that cost sharing is appropriate, the amounts of grants provided under this section shall be limited as provided in this subsection.

(2) Technical assistance grants

In the case of grants for technical assistance under subsection (b), grant funds shall be available for not more than—

(A) an amount equal to the lesser of—

- (i) \$50,000; or
- (ii) 75 percent of the cost of feasibility studies to assess the potential for implementation or improvement of sustainable energy infrastructure;

(B) an amount equal to the lesser of—

- (i) \$90,000; or
- (ii) 60 percent of the cost of guidance on overcoming barriers to project implementation, including financial, contracting, siting, and permitting barriers; and

(C) an amount equal to the lesser of—

- (i) \$250,000; or

(ii) 40 percent of the cost of detailed engineering and design of sustainable energy infrastructure.

(3) Grants for efficiency improvement and energy sustainability

In the case of grants for efficiency improvement and energy sustainability under subsection (c), grant funds shall be available for not more than an amount equal to the lesser of—

- (A) \$1,000,000; or
- (B) 60 percent of the total cost.

(4) Grants for innovation in energy sustainability

In the case of grants for innovation in energy sustainability under subsection (d), grant funds shall be available for not more than an amount equal to the lesser of—

- (A) \$500,000; or
- (B) 75 percent of the total cost.

(g) Loans for energy efficiency improvement and energy sustainability

(1) In general

Subject to the availability of appropriated funds, the Secretary shall provide loans to institutional entities for the purpose of implementing energy efficiency improvements and sustainable energy infrastructure.

(2) Terms and conditions

(A) In general

Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, loans made under this subsection shall be on such terms and conditions as the Secretary may prescribe.

(B) Maturity

The final maturity of loans made within a period shall be the lesser of, as determined by the Secretary—

- (i) 20 years; or
- (ii) 90 percent of the useful life of the principal physical asset to be financed by the loan.

(C) Default

No loan made under this subsection may be subordinated to another debt contracted by the institutional entity or to any other claims against the institutional entity in the case of default.

(D) Benchmark interest rate

(i) In general

Loans under this subsection shall be at an interest rate that is set by reference to a benchmark interest rate (yield) on marketable Treasury securities with a similar maturity to the direct loans being made.

(ii) Minimum

The minimum interest rate of loans under this subsection shall be at the interest rate of the benchmark financial instrument.

(iii) New loans

The minimum interest rate of new loans shall be adjusted each quarter to take account of changes in the interest rate of the benchmark financial instrument.

(E) Credit risk

The Secretary shall—

(i) prescribe explicit standards for use in periodically assessing the credit risk of making direct loans under this subsection; and

(ii) find that there is a reasonable assurance of repayment before making a loan.

(F) Advance budget authority required

New direct loans may not be obligated under this subsection except to the extent that appropriations of budget authority to cover the costs of the new direct loans are made in advance, as required by section 661c of title 2.

(3) Criteria

Evaluation of projects for potential loan funding shall be based on criteria established by the Secretary, including criteria relating to—

- (A) improvement in energy efficiency;
- (B) reduction in greenhouse gas emissions and other air emissions, including criteria air pollutants and ozone-depleting refrigerants;
- (C) increased use of renewable electric energy sources or renewable thermal energy sources;
- (D) reduction in consumption of fossil fuels; and
- (E) need for funding assistance, including consideration of the size of endowment or other financial resources available to the institutional entity.

(4) Labor standards

(A) In general

All laborers and mechanics employed by contractors or subcontractors in the performance of construction, repair, or alteration work funded in whole or in part under this section shall be paid wages at rates not less than those prevailing on projects of a character similar in the locality as determined by the Secretary of Labor in accordance with sections 3141 through 3144, 3146, and 3147 of title 40. The Secretary shall not approve any such funding without first obtaining adequate assurance that required labor standards will be maintained upon the construction work.

(B) Authority and functions

The Secretary of Labor shall have, with respect to the labor standards specified in paragraph (1), the authority and functions set forth in Reorganization Plan Number 14 of 1950 (15 Fed. Reg. 3176; 64 Stat. 1267) and section 3145 of title 40.

(h) Program procedures

Not later than 180 days after December 19, 2007, the Secretary shall establish procedures for the solicitation and evaluation of potential projects for grant and loan funding and administration of the grant and loan programs.

(i) Authorization

(1) Grants

There is authorized to be appropriated for the cost of grants authorized in subsections

(b), (c), and (d) \$250,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2009 through 2013, of which not more than 5 percent may be used for administrative expenses.

(2) Loans

There is authorized to be appropriated for the initial cost of direct loans authorized in subsection (g) \$500,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2009 through 2013, of which not more than 5 percent may be used for administrative expenses.

(Pub. L. 94-163, title III, §399A, as added Pub. L. 110-140, title IV, §471, Dec. 19, 2007, 121 Stat. 1642.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Reorganization Plan Number 14 of 1950, referred to in subsec. (g)(4)(B), is set out in the Appendix to Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective on the date that is 1 day after Dec. 19, 2007, see section 1601 of Pub. L. 110-140, set out as a note under section 1824 of Title 2, The Congress.

§ 6371i. Records

Each recipient of assistance under this part shall keep such records, provide such reports, and furnish such access to books and records as the Secretary may by rule prescribe.

(Pub. L. 94-163, title III, §400, as added Pub. L. 95-619, title III, §302(a), Nov. 9, 1978, 92 Stat. 3247; amended Pub. L. 105-388, §5(a)(11), Nov. 13, 1998, 112 Stat. 3479.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

1998—Pub. L. 105-388 struck out “(a)” before “Each recipient”.

§ 6371j. Application of sections 3141-3144, 3146, and 3147 of title 40

No grant for a project (other than so much of a grant as is used for a preliminary energy audit, energy audit, or technical assistance or a grant the total project cost of which is \$5,000 or less, excluding costs for a preliminary energy audit, energy audit, or technical assistance) shall be made under this part or part 1 unless the Secretary finds that all laborers and mechanics employed by contractors or subcontractors in the performance of work on any construction utilizing such grants will be paid at rates not less than those prevailing on similar construction in the locality, as determined by the Secretary of Labor in accordance with sections 3141-3144, 3146, and 3147 of title 40; and the Secretary of Labor shall have with respect to the labor standards specified in this section the authority and functions set forth in Reorganization Plan Numbered 14 of 1950 (15 F.R. 3176; 5 U.S.C. Appendix) and section 3145 of title 40.

(Pub. L. 95-619, title III, §312, Nov. 9, 1978, 92 Stat. 3254.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This part, referred to in text, means part 2 (§§310-312) of title III of Pub. L. 95-619, Nov. 9, 1978, 92 Stat. 3248, which enacted sections 6371j and 6372 to 6372i of this title and enacted provisions set out as a note under section 6372 of this title. For complete classification of this part to the Code, see Tables.

Part 1, referred to in text, means part 1 (§§301-304) of title III of Pub. L. 95-619, Nov. 9, 1978, 92 Stat. 3238, which enacted sections 6371 to 6371i of this title, amended sections 300k-2 and 300n-1 of this title, and enacted provisions set out as notes under sections 6371 of this title. For complete classification of this part to the Code, see Tables.

Reorganization Plan Numbered 14 of 1950, referred to in text, is set out in the Appendix to Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

CODIFICATION

In text, “sections 3141-3144, 3146, and 3147 of title 40” substituted for “the Act of March 31, 1931 (40 U.S.C. 276a-276a-5, known as the Davis-Bacon Act)” and “section 3145 of title 40” substituted for “section 2 of the Act of June 13, 1934 (40 U.S.C. 276c)” on authority of Pub. L. 107-217, §5(c), Aug. 21, 2002, 116 Stat. 1303, the first section of which enacted Title 40, Public Buildings, Property, and Works.

Section was enacted as a part of the National Energy Conservation Policy Act, and not as a part of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act which comprises this chapter, and consequently is not a part of part E of this subchapter.

§ 6371k. Coordination of energy retrofitting assistance for schools

(a) Definition of school

In this section, the term “school” means—

- (1) an elementary school or secondary school (as defined in section 7801 of title 20);
- (2) an institution of higher education (as defined in section 1001(a) of title 20);
- (3) a postsecondary vocational institution (as defined in section 1002(c) of title 20);
- (4) a school of the defense dependents’ education system under the Defense Dependents’ Education Act of 1978 (20 U.S.C. 921 et seq.) or established under section 2164 of title 10;
- (5) a school operated by the Bureau of Indian Education;
- (6) a tribally controlled school (as defined in section 2511 of title 25); and
- (7) a Tribal College or University (as defined in section 1059c(b) of title 20).

(b) Designation of lead agency

The Secretary of Energy (in this section referred to as the “Secretary”), acting through the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy, shall act as the lead Federal agency for coordinating and disseminating information on existing Federal programs and assistance that may be used to help initiate, develop, and finance energy efficiency, renewable energy, and energy retrofitting projects for schools.

(c) Requirements

In carrying out coordination and outreach under subsection (b), the Secretary shall—

- (1) in consultation and coordination with the appropriate Federal agencies, carry out a review of existing programs and financing mechanisms (including revolving loan funds and