

of Energy, of permanent exemptions for use of natural gas or petroleum for installations based upon product or process requirements.

Subsec. (j). Pub. L. 100-42, §1(c)(6)(H), struck out subsec. (j) which related to issuance, by order of Secretary of Energy, of permanent exemptions for use of natural gas or petroleum for installations necessary to meet scheduled equipment outages.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EXEMPTION FOR CERTAIN ELECTRIC POWERPLANTS AS EFFECTIVE PRIOR TO 180 DAYS AFTER NOVEMBER 9, 1978

For effectiveness of exemption for certain electric powerplants as prior to 180 days after Nov. 9, 1978, see section 902(a) of Pub. L. 95-620, set out as a note under section 8301 of this title.

§ 8323. General requirements for exemptions

(a) Use of mixtures or fluidized bed combustion not feasible

Except in the case of an exemption under section 8322(d) of this title, the Secretary may grant a permanent exemption for a powerplant under this part only—

(1) if the applicant has demonstrated that the use of a mixture of natural gas or petroleum and coal or another alternate fuel, for which an exemption under section 8322(d) of this title would be available, is not economically or technically feasible; and

(2) if the Secretary has not made a finding that the use of a method of fluidized bed combustion of coal or another alternate fuel is economically and technically feasible.

(b) State approval required for powerplant

If the appropriate State regulatory authority has not approved a powerplant for which a petition has been filed, such exemption, to the extent it applies to the prohibition under section 8311 of this title against construction without the capability of using coal or another alternate fuel, shall not take effect until all approvals required by such State regulatory authority which relate to construction have been obtained.

(c) No alternative power supply in the case of a powerplant

(1) Except in the case of an exemption under section 8322(c) of this title, the Secretary may not grant an exemption for a new powerplant unless he finds that the petitioner has demonstrated that there is no alternative supply of electric power which is available within a reasonable distance at a reasonable cost without impairing short-run or long-run reliability of service and which can be obtained by the petitioner, despite reasonable good faith efforts.

(2) The Secretary shall forward a copy of any such petition to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission promptly after it is filed with the Secretary and shall consult with such Commission before making any finding on such petition under paragraph (1).

(Pub. L. 95-620, title II, §213, Nov. 9, 1978, 92 Stat. 3304; Pub. L. 100-42, §1(c)(7), May 21, 1987, 101 Stat. 312.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

1987—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 100-42, §1(c)(7)(A), (B), in introductory provisions struck out “or (g)” after “8322(d)” and “or installation” after “powerplant”.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 100-42, §1(c)(7)(C), amended subsec. (b) generally. Prior to amendment, subsec. (b) read as follows: “If the appropriate State regulatory authority has not approved a powerplant for which a petition has been filed, such exemption—

“(1) to the extent it applies to the prohibition under section 8311(2) of this title against construction without the capability of using coal or another alternate fuel, shall not take effect until all approvals required by such State regulatory authority which relate to construction have been obtained; and

“(2) to the extent it applies to the prohibition under section 8311(1) of this title against the use of natural gas or petroleum as a primary energy source, shall not take effect until all approvals required by such State regulatory authority which relate to construction or operation have been obtained.”

Subsec. (c)(1). Pub. L. 100-42, §1(c)(7)(A), in introductory provisions struck out “or (g)” after “section 8322(c)”.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EXEMPTION FOR CERTAIN ELECTRIC POWERPLANTS AS EFFECTIVE PRIOR TO 180 DAYS AFTER NOVEMBER 9, 1978

For effectiveness of exemption for certain electric powerplants as prior to 180 days after Nov. 9, 1978, see section 902(a) of Pub. L. 95-620, set out as a note under section 8301 of this title.

§ 8324. Terms and conditions; compliance plans

(a) Terms and conditions generally

Any exemption from any prohibition under this part shall be on such terms and conditions as the Secretary determines appropriate, including terms and conditions requiring the use of effective fuel conservation measures which are practicable and consistent with the purposes of this chapter. In the case of any temporary exemption, the terms and conditions (which may include a compliance plan meeting the requirements of subsection (b)) shall be designed to insure that upon the expiration of such exemption, the persons and powerplant covered by such exemption will comply with the applicable prohibitions.

(b) Compliance plans

A compliance plan meets the requirements of this subsection if it is approved by the Secretary and—

(1) contains (A) a schedule indicating how compliance with applicable prohibitions of this chapter will occur and (B) evidence of binding contracts for fuel, or facilities for the production of fuel, which would allow or¹ such compliance; and

(2) is revised at such times and to such extent as the Secretary may require to reflect changes in circumstances.

(Pub. L. 95-620, title II, §214, Nov. 9, 1978, 92 Stat. 3304; Pub. L. 100-42, §1(c)(8), May 21, 1987, 101 Stat. 312.)

¹ So in original. Probably should be “for”.

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in subsecs. (a) and (b)(1)(A), was in the original “this Act”, meaning Pub. L. 95-620, Nov. 9, 1978, 92 Stat. 3289, known as the Powerplant and Industrial Fuel Use Act of 1978, which is classified principally to this chapter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 8301 of this title and Tables.

AMENDMENTS

1987—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 100-42 struck out “or installation” after “powerplant”.

Statutory Notes and Related SubsidiariesEXEMPTION FOR CERTAIN ELECTRIC POWERPLANTS AS
EFFECTIVE PRIOR TO 180 DAYS AFTER NOVEMBER 9,
1978

For effectiveness of exemption for certain electric powerplants as prior to 180 days after Nov. 9, 1978, see section 902(a) of Pub. L. 95-620, set out as a note under section 8301 of this title.

SUBCHAPTER III—EXISTING FACILITIES

PART A—PROHIBITIONS

§ 8341. Existing electric powerplants**(a) Certification by powerplants of coal capability**

At any time, the owner or operator of an existing electric powerplant may certify to the Secretary, for purposes of subsection (b)—

(1) whether or not such powerplant has or previously had the technical capability to use coal or another alternate fuel as a primary energy source;

(2) whether or not such powerplant could have the technical capability to use coal or another alternate fuel as a primary energy source without having—

(A) substantial physical modification of the powerplant, or

(B) substantial reduction in the rated capacity of the powerplant; and

(3) whether or not it is financially feasible to use coal or another alternate fuel as a primary energy source in such a powerplant.

(b) Authority of Secretary to prohibit where coal or alternate fuel capability exists

The Secretary may prohibit, in accordance with section 8343(a) or (b) of this title, the use of petroleum or natural gas, or both, as a primary energy source in any existing electric powerplant, if an affirmative certification under subsection (a)(1), (2), and (3) is in effect with respect to such powerplant and if, after examining the basis for the certification, the Secretary concurs with the certification.

(c) Authority of Secretary to prohibit excessive use in mixtures

At any time, the owner or operator of an existing electric powerplant may certify to the Secretary for purposes of this subsection whether or not it is technically and financially feasible to use a mixture of petroleum or natural gas and coal or another alternate fuel as a primary energy source in that powerplant. If an affirmative certification under this subsection is in effect

with respect to such powerplant and if, after examining the basis for the certification, the Secretary concurs with the certification, the Secretary may prohibit, in accordance with section 8343(a) of this title, the use of petroleum or natural gas, or both, in such powerplant in amounts in excess of the minimum amount necessary to maintain reliability of operation of the unit consistent with maintaining reasonable fuel efficiency of such mixture.

(d) Amendment of subsection (a) and (c) certifications

The owner or operator of any such powerplant may at any time amend any certification under subsection (a) or (c) in order to take into account changes in relevant facts and circumstances; except that no such amendment to such a certification may be made after the date of any final prohibition under subsection (b) or (c) based on that certification.

(Pub. L. 95-620, title III, § 301, as added Pub. L. 97-35, title X, § 1021(a), Aug. 13, 1981, 95 Stat. 614.)

Editorial Notes

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 8341, Pub. L. 95-620, title III, § 301, Nov. 9, 1978, 92 Stat. 3305, related to existing electric powerplants, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 97-35, title X, § 1021(a), Aug. 13, 1981, 95 Stat. 614.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective Aug. 13, 1981, see section 1038 of Pub. L. 97-35, set out as an Effective Date of 1981 Amendment note under section 6240 of this title.

VALIDITY OF ORDERS UNDER FORMER PROVISIONS OF
THIS SECTION

Pub. L. 97-35, title X, § 1022, Aug. 13, 1981, 95 Stat. 616, provided that:

“(a) The amendments made by section 1021 to section 301(b) and (c) of the Powerplant and Industrial Fuel Use Act of 1978 [subsecs. (b) and (c) of this section] shall not apply to any electric powerplant for which a final order was issued pursuant to section 301(b) or (c) of such Act before the date of the enactment of this Act [Aug. 13, 1981].

“(b) Any electric powerplant issued a proposed order under section 301(b) or (c) of such Act which is pending on the date of the enactment of this Act may elect not to have the amendments made by section 1021 to such section 301(b) or (c) apply with respect to that powerplant. Such an election shall be irrevocable and shall be made in such form and manner as the Secretary of Energy shall, within 45 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, prescribe. Such an election shall be made not later than 60 days after the date on which the Secretary of Energy prescribes the form and manner of making such election.

“(c)(1) The amendments made by section 1021 shall not affect the validity of any final order issued under section 301(b) or (c) of the Powerplant and Industrial Fuel Use Act of 1978 before the date of the enactment of this Act.

“(2) The validity of any proposed order issued under such section 301(b) or (c) shall not be affected in the case of powerplants covered by elections made under subsection (b).

“(3) The authority of the Secretary of Energy to amend, repeal, rescind, modify, or enforce any order referred to in paragraph (1) or (2), or rules applicable thereto, shall remain in effect notwithstanding any such amendments.”