

(Aug. 9, 1912, ch. 278, §2, 37 Stat. 266.)

§ 543. Certificate of final payment and release of lien

Upon full and final payment being made of all amounts due on account of the building and betterment charges to the United States or its successors in control of the project, the United States or its successors, as the case may be, shall issue upon request a certificate certifying that payment of the building and betterment charges in full has been made and that the lien upon the land has been so far satisfied and is no longer of any force or effect except the lien for annual charges for operation and maintenance.

(Aug. 9, 1912, ch. 278, §3, 37 Stat. 266.)

CODIFICATION

Section comprises part of section 3 of act Aug. 9, 1912. Remainder of section 3 is set out as section 544 of this title.

§ 544. Limitation as to holdings prior to final payment of charges; forfeiture of excess holding

No person shall at any one time or in any manner, except as hereinafter otherwise provided, acquire, own, or hold irrigable land for which entry or water-right application shall have been made under the said reclamation Act of June 17, 1902 and Acts supplementary thereto and amendatory thereof, before final payment in full of all installments of building and betterment charges shall have been made on account of such land in excess of one farm unit as fixed by the Secretary of the Interior as the limit of area per entry of public land or per single ownership of private land for which a water right may be purchased respectively, nor in any case in excess of one hundred and sixty acres, nor shall water be furnished under said Acts nor a water right sold or recognized for such excess; but any such excess land acquired by foreclosure or other process of law, by conveyance in satisfaction of mortgages, by inheritance, or by devise, may be held for five years and no longer after its acquisition, and water may be temporarily furnished during that time; and every excess holding prohibited as aforesaid shall be forfeited to the United States by proceedings instituted by the Attorney General for that purpose in any court of competent jurisdiction. The above provision shall be recited in every patent and water-right certificate issued by the United States under the provisions of this subchapter.

(Aug. 9, 1912, ch. 278, §3, 37 Stat. 266; July 11, 1956, ch. 563, §2, 70 Stat. 524.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The reclamation Act of June 17, 1902, referred to in text, is identified in section 541 of this title as act June 17, 1902, ch. 1093, 32 Stat. 388, which is classified generally to this chapter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 371 of this title and Tables.

CODIFICATION

Section comprises part of section 3 of act Aug. 9, 1912. Remainder of section 3 is set out as section 543 of this title.

AMENDMENTS

1956—Act July 11, 1956, increased period during which land could be held from two years to five years, and to authorize delivery of water for that period.

AMENDMENT OF EXISTING CONTRACTS

For provisions authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to amend existing contracts under the Federal reclamation laws to conform to the provisions of this section, see section 3 of act July 11, 1956, set out as a note under section 423e of this title.

§ 545. Appointment of agents to receive payments; record of payments and amounts owing

The Secretary of the Interior is authorized to designate such bonded fiscal agents or officers of the Reclamation Service as he may deem advisable on each reclamation project, to whom shall be paid all sums due on reclamation entries or water rights, and the officials so designated shall keep a record for the information of the public of the sums paid and the amount due at any time on account of any entry made or water right purchased under the reclamation Act; and the Secretary of the Interior shall make provision for furnishing copies of duly authenticated records of entries upon payment of reasonable fees which copies shall be admissible in evidence, as are copies authenticated under section eight hundred and eighty-eight¹ of the Revised Statutes.

(Aug. 9, 1912, ch. 278, §4, 37 Stat. 267.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The reclamation Act, referred to in text, is identified in section 541 of this section as act June 17, 1902, ch. 1093, 32 Stat. 388, popularly known as the Reclamation Act, which is classified generally to this chapter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 371 of this title and Tables.

Section eight hundred and eighty-eight of the Revised Statutes, referred to in text, was repealed by section 21 of act June 25, 1948, ch. 645, 62 Stat. 862, the first section of which enacted Title 18, Crimes and Criminal Procedure. Prior to repeal, R.S. §888 was classified to section 669 of former Title 28, Judicial Code and Judiciary. For provisions relating to admissibility in evidence of authenticated copies, see section 1733 of Title 28, Judiciary and Judicial Procedure.

CHANGE OF NAME

The Reclamation Service, established in July 1902, changed to the Bureau of Reclamation on June 20, 1923, then to the Water and Power Resources Service on Nov. 6, 1979, and then to the Bureau of Reclamation on May 18, 1981. See 155 Dep't of the Interior, Departmental Manual 1.1 (2008 repl.); Sec'y Hubert Work, Dep't of the Interior, Order (June 20, 1923); Sec'y Cecil D. Andrus, Dep't of the Interior, Secretarial Order 3042, §§1, 4 (Nov. 6, 1979); Sec'y James G. Watt, Dep't of the Interior, Secretarial Order 3064, §§3, 5 (May 18, 1981).

TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

For transfer of functions of other officers, employees, and agencies of Department of the Interior, with certain exceptions, to Secretary of the Interior, with power to delegate, see Reorg. Plan No. 3 of 1950, §§1, 2, eff. May 24, 1950, 15 F.R. 3174, 64 Stat. 1262, set out under section 1451 of this title.

¹ See References in Text note below.

§ 546. Jurisdiction of district court for enforcement of this subchapter

Jurisdiction of suits by the United States for the enforcement of the provisions of this subchapter is conferred on the United States district courts of the districts in which the lands are situated.

(Aug. 9, 1912, ch. 278, § 5, 37 Stat. 267.)

§ 547. Patent to desert-land entryman

Any desert-land entryman whose desert-land entry has been embraced within the exterior limits of any land withdrawal or irrigation project under the Act of June 17, 1902, known as the reclamation Act, and who may have obtained a water supply for the land embraced in any such desert-land entry from the reclamation project by the purchase of a water-right certificate, may at any time after having complied with the provisions of the law applicable to such lands and upon proof of the cultivation and reclamation of the land to the extent required by the reclamation Act for homestead entrymen, submit proof of such compliance, which proof, if found regular and satisfactory, shall entitle the entryman to a patent and a final water-right certificate under the same terms and conditions as required of homestead entrymen under this subchapter.

(Aug. 26, 1912, ch. 408, § 1, 37 Stat. 610.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Act of June 17, 1902, known as the reclamation Act, referred to in text, is act June 17, 1902, ch. 1093, 32 Stat. 388, as amended, which is classified generally to this chapter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 371 of this title and Tables.

CODIFICATION

This section was not enacted as part of act Aug. 9, 1912, ch. 278, 37 Stat. 265, which comprises this subchapter.

SUBCHAPTER XV—TOWN SITES, PARKS, PLAYGROUNDS, AND SCHOOL SITES

§ 561. Survey and subdivision of land for town sites; reservation for public purposes

The Secretary of the Interior may in connection with irrigation projects under the reclamation Act of June seventeenth, nineteen hundred and two, not exceeding one hundred and sixty acres in each case, survey and subdivide the same into town lots, with appropriate reservations for public purposes: *Provided*, That, whenever, in the opinion of the Secretary of the Interior, it shall be advisable for the public interest, he may dispose of town sites in excess of one hundred and sixty acres.

(Apr. 16, 1906, ch. 1631, § 1, 34 Stat. 116; June 27, 1906, ch. 3559, § 4, 34 Stat. 520; Pub. L. 94-579, title VII, § 704(a), Oct. 21, 1976, 90 Stat. 2792.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The reclamation Act of June seventeenth, nineteen hundred and two, referred to in text, is act June 17, 1902, ch. 1093, 32 Stat. 388, popularly known as the Reclamation Act, which is classified generally to this chapter. For complete classification of this Act to the

Code, see Short Title note set out under section 371 of this title and Tables.

CODIFICATION

Introductory provisions are from the first section of act Apr. 16, 1906. The proviso is from part of the proviso of section 4 of act June 27, 1906. Another part of the proviso of section 4 of act June 27, 1906, is classified to section 568 of this title. The remainder of section 4 of act June 27, 1906, was classified to former section 594 of this title.

AMENDMENTS

1976—Pub. L. 94-579 struck out provisions authorizing withdrawal from public entry any lands needed for town-site purposes.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1976 AMENDMENT

Section 704(a) of Pub. L. 94-579 provided that the amendment made by that section is effective on and after Oct. 21, 1976.

SAVINGS PROVISION

Amendment by Pub. L. 94-579 not to be construed as terminating any valid lease, permit, patent, etc., existing on Oct. 21, 1976, see section 701 of Pub. L. 94-579, set out as a note under section 1701 of this title.

§ 562. Appraisal and sale of town lots

The lots so surveyed shall be appraised under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior and sold under his direction at not less than their appraised value at public auction to the highest bidders, from time to time, for cash, and the lots offered for sale and not disposed of may afterwards be sold at not less than the appraised value under such regulations as the Secretary of the Interior may prescribe. Reclamation funds may be used to defray the necessary expenses of appraisal and sale, and the proceeds of such sales shall be covered into the reclamation fund.

(Apr. 16, 1906, ch. 1631, § 2, 34 Stat. 116.)

§ 563. Disposal of town sites set apart prior to June 27, 1906

Any town site set apart or established prior to June 27, 1906, by proclamation of the President, under the provisions of sections 711 and 712¹ of this title, within or in the vicinity of any reclamation project, may be appraised and disposed of in accordance with the provisions of section 562 of this title and all necessary expenses incurred in the appraisal and sale of lands embraced within any such town site shall be paid from the reclamation fund, and the proceeds of the sales of such lands shall be covered into the reclamation fund.

(June 27, 1906, ch. 3559, § 3, 34 Stat. 519.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Sections 711 and 712 of this title, referred to in text, were repealed by Pub. L. 94-579, title VII, § 703(a), Oct. 21, 1976, 90 Stat. 2789.

§ 564. Reappraisal of town lots for sale

The Secretary of the Interior is authorized, whenever he may deem it necessary, to reappraise all unsold lots within town sites on projects under the reclamation Act heretofore

¹ See References in Text note below.