November 19, 1999

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—SENATE

31141

(2) COMPETITIVE MERIT-BASED REVIEW.— Funds made available under paragraph (1) shall be made available based on a competitive merit-based process.

(3) CONSULTATION.—

(A) In general.—The Secretary of Energy shall establish an advisory panel consisting of experts from industry, institutions of higher education, and Federal agencies to—

(1) advise the Secretary of Energy on potential applications of methane hydrate; and

(2) assist in developing recommendations and priorities for them as methane hydrate research and development carried out under subsection (a)(1); and

(i) not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, and at such later dates at the panel considers advisable, submit to Congress a report on the anticipated impact on global climate change from—

(1) methane hydrate formation;

(II) methane hydrate degrading (including natural degrading and degrading associated with commercial development); and

(III) the consumption of methane hydrates.

(B) MEMBERSHIP.—Not more than twenty-five percent of the individuals serving on the advisory panel shall be Federal employees.

(c) LIMITATIONS.—

(1) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—Not more than 5 percent of the amount made available to carry out this section for a fiscal year may be used by the Secretary of Energy for expenses associated with the administration of the program carried out under subsection (a)(1).

(2) CONSTRUCTION COSTS.—None of the funds made available to carry out this section may be used for the construction of a new building or the expansion, remodeling, or alteration of an existing building (including site grading and improvement and architectural fees).

(d) RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE SECRETARY OF ENERGY.—In carrying out subsection (b)(1), the Secretary of Energy shall—

(1) facilitate and develop partnerships among government, industry, and institutions of higher education to research, identify, assess, and explore methane hydrate resources;

(2) undertake programs to develop basic information necessary for promoting long-term interest in methane hydrate resources as an energy source;

(3) ensure that the data and information developed through the program are accessible and widely disseminated as needed and appropriate;

(4) promote cooperation among agencies that are developing technologies that may hold promise for methane hydrate resource development; and

(5) report annually to Congress on accomplishments under this section.


Section 201 of the Mining and Minerals Policy Act of 1970 (30 U.S.C. 1901) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (6)—

(A) in subparagraph (F), by striking “and” at the end;

(B) by redesignating subparagraph (G) as subparagraph (H); and

(C) by inserting after subparagraph (F) the following:

“(G) for purposes of this section and sections 202 through 205 only, methane hydrate; and”;

(2) by redesignating paragraph (7) as paragraph (8); and

(3) by inserting after paragraph 6 the following:

“(7) the term “Methane hydrate” means—

(A) a methane clathrate that is in the form of amethane-water ice-like crystalline material and is stable and occurs naturally in deep-ocean and permafrost areas; and

(B) other natural gas hydrates found in association with deep-ocean and permafrost deposits of methane hydrate.”;

SEC. 5. REPORTS AND STUDIES.

The Secretary of Energy shall simulta-

genously provide to the Committee on Science and the Committee on Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate copies of any report or study that the Department of Energy pursuant to this Act.

SEC. 6. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Energy to carry out this Act—

(1) $5,000,000 for fiscal year 2000;

(2) $7,500,000 for fiscal year 2001;

(3) $11,000,000 for fiscal year 2002;

(4) $12,000,000 for fiscal year 2003;

(5) $12,000,000 for fiscal year 2004; and

(6) thereafter such sums as are necessary.

Amounts authorized under his section shall remain available until expended.

Amend the title to read as follows: “An act to promote the research, identification, assessment, exploration, and development of methane hydrate resources, and for other purposes.”.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

THREE NEW YORKERS RETIRING FROM THE NORTHEAST-MIDWEST INSTITUTE’S BOARD OF DIRECTORS

• Mr. MOYNIHAN. Mr. President, for the past twelve and one-half years, I have served as the Democratic co-chairman of the Northeast-Midwest Institute. John Heinz was the Republican co-chairman until his tragic death in 1991; since then, I have been involved with the Northeast-Midwest Institute’s Board of Directors. They have provided me with a unique vantage point from which to view the work of the Institute. I rise this morning to pay tribute to an outstanding organization.

• Mr. MOYNIHAN. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding Vermonter, Lisa Lindahl. Ms. Lindahl is know to many as an artist, inventor and storyteller. She made her mark in the business world by designing the first sports bra and becoming the CEO of the company that successfully marketed the “Jogbra” until its sale in 1990 to a major corporation.

• Mr. MOYNIHAN. Mr. President, these gentlemen have served on the Institute’s Board of Directors six years or more without fanfare or remuneration. They are busy men, with plenty of other responsibilities. But they have served, and served with distinction. House and Senate Coalition Members of the Institute’s Board of Directors have worked closely with the Northeast-Midwest Institute, the premier non-partisan, not-for-profit regional policy research center. A superb board of directors guides the Institute. I rise this afternoon to commend three New Yorkers who are ending their terms on the Northeast-Midwest Institute’s Board of Directors. They have provided distinguished service and have helped to advance the region’s economic vitality and environmental quality.

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Former Representative Frank Horton has been involved with the Northeast-Midwest organizations for almost 25 years. Indeed, he was one of the founders of the Northeast-Midwest Congressional Coalition, our House counterpart, and served as its Republican co-chairman until he retired from the House in 1992. Frank had a distinguished career spanning 30 years, representing Rochester and serving for many years as ranking member on the Government Operations Committee.

We—I speak now on behalf of the New York Congressional delegation—revered Frank and were grateful for his counsel. He was a person who had recently been with the DC-based law firm of Venable, Baetjer, Howard & Civiletti.

Gerald Benjamin, another Northeast-Midwest Institute Board Member whose six-year term is ending, is dean of Liberal Arts & Sciences at the State University of New York at New Paltz. Jerry is a respected scholar, who has focused on Federalism—a subject near and dear to my heart—and public policy development. He has been active in New York politics, having served as county legislator and chairman in Ulster County. Jerry also was appointed as a member of the New York State Equalization and Assessment Panel and entrepreneur. He studied Composition on School District Reorganization and Sharing.

Thomas Mooney is president of the Greater Rochester Metro Chamber of Commerce. Tom has pulled together the Greater Rochester business community and expanded that organization substantially. He has been a leader in numerous civic affairs, helping to coordinate public-private partnerships that have enhanced Rochester’s industrial infrastructure. Tom also served as city manager of Rochester and deputy county manager of the County of Monroe. He also serves on the Genesee Hospital Board of Trustees and the Rochester Philharmonic Board of Overseers.

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TRIBUTE TO LISA LINDAHL

• Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding Vermonter, Lisa Lindahl. Ms. Lindahl is know to many as an artist, inventor and storyteller. She made her mark in the business world by designing the first sports bra and becoming the CEO of the company that successfully marketed the “Jogbra” until its sale in 1990 to a major corporation.

Ms. Lindahl is also known as a long-time advocate of people with epilepsy. Lisa is deeply committed to bringing to the forefront medical issues which are unique to women living with epilepsy. Her unwavering commitment to improving the health status of such individuals serves as a testament to us all. She is a stunning example of what we can do when one person can positively affect so many.