

Functions of Secretary of the Interior, Department of the Interior, and officers and components of Department of the Interior under sections 1, 3, and 5 to 7 of this title and other authorities exercised by Bureau of Mines relating to fuel supply and demand analysis and data gathering, research and development relating to increased efficiency of production technology of solid fuel minerals other than research relating to mine health and safety and research relating to the environmental and leasing consequences of solid fuel mining, and coal preparation and analysis transferred to, and vested in, Secretary of Energy as part of the creation of Department of Energy by Pub. L. 95-91, Aug. 4, 1977, 91 Stat. 565. See section 7152(d) of Title 42.

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 in the Appendix to Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

Bureau of Mines originally created in Department of the Interior. Bureau transferred to Department of Commerce by Ex. Ord. No. 4239, but transferred back to Department of the Interior by Ex. Ord. No. 6611.

CROSS REFERENCES

Publications of United States Bureau of Mines, see section 1327 of Title 44, Public Printing and Documents.

SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in sections 3, 5, 6, 7, 8 of this title; title 42 sections 5821, 7152.

§ 1a. Transfer of activities, employees, records, etc., from Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce to the United States Bureau of Mines

There is hereby transferred from the Department of Commerce, Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce, to the Department of the Interior, United States Bureau of Mines, all those activities of the Minerals Division of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce concerned with economic and statistical analyses of mineral commodities, domestic and foreign, together with all employees, records, files, equipment, publications, and funds pertaining thereto, effective immediately.

(May 9, 1935, ch. 101, § 1, 49 Stat. 205; May 18, 1992, Pub. L. 102-285, § 10(b), 106 Stat. 172.)

CHANGE OF NAME

“United States Bureau of Mines” substituted in text for “Bureau of Mines” pursuant to section 10(b) of Pub. L. 102-285, set out as a note under section 1 of this title.

TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

See note set out under section 1 of this title.

§ 2. Performance of duties in absence of director

On and after July 1, 1916, in the absence of the Director of the United States Bureau of Mines the assistant director of said bureau shall perform the duties of the director during the latter's absence, and in the absence of the Director and of the Assistant Director of the United States Bureau of Mines the Secretary of the Interior may designate some officer of said bureau to perform the duties of the director during his absence.

(July 1, 1916, ch. 209, § 1, 39 Stat. 303; Ex. Ord. No. 4239, June 4, 1925; Ex. Ord. No. 6611, Feb. 22, 1934;

May 18, 1992, Pub. L. 102-285, § 10(b), 106 Stat. 172.)

CHANGE OF NAME

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TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

See note set out under section 1 of this title.

§ 3. Duties of United States Bureau of Mines

It shall be the province and duty of the United States Bureau of Mines, subject to the approval of the Secretary of the Interior, to conduct inquiries and scientific and technologic investigations concerning mining, and the preparation, treatment, and utilization of mineral substances with a view to improving health conditions, and increasing safety, efficiency, economic development, and conserving resources through the prevention of waste in the mining, quarrying, metallurgical, and other mineral industries; to inquire into the economic conditions affecting these industries; to investigate explosives and peat; and on behalf of the Government to investigate the mineral fuels and unfinished mineral products belonging to, or for the use of, the United States, with a view to their most efficient mining, preparation, treatment, and use; and to disseminate information concerning these subjects in such manner as will best carry out the purposes of the provisions of sections 1, 3, and 5 to 7 of this title.

(May 16, 1910, ch. 240, § 2, 36 Stat. 370; Feb. 25, 1913, ch. 72, § 2, 37 Stat. 681; Ex. Ord. No. 4239, June 4, 1925; Ex. Ord. No. 6611, Feb. 22, 1934; May 18, 1992, Pub. L. 102-285, § 10(b), 106 Stat. 172.)

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TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

See note set out under section 1 of this title.

SECTION REFERRED TO IN OTHER SECTIONS

This section is referred to in sections 1, 5, 6, 7, 8 of this title; title 42 sections 5821, 7152.

§ 4. Investigation of lignite coal and peat

The Secretary of the Interior is authorized and directed to make experiments and investigations, through the United States Bureau of Mines, of lignite coals and peat, to determine the commercial and economic practicability of their utilization in producing fuel oil, gasoline substitutes, ammonia, tar, solid fuels, gas for power, and other purposes. The Secretary of the Interior is authorized and directed subject to applicable regulations under the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, as amended [40 U.S.C. 471 et seq.], to sell or otherwise dispose of any property, plant, or machinery purchased or acquired under the provisions of this section, as soon as the experiments and investigations authorized have been concluded, and report the results of such experiments and investigations to Congress.

(Feb. 25, 1919, ch. 23, §§ 1, 2, 40 Stat. 1154; Ex. Ord. No. 4239, June 4, 1925; Ex. Ord. No. 6611, Feb. 22,