

(Pub. L. 98-603, title I, § 103, Oct. 30, 1984, 98 Stat. 3156; Pub. L. 104-333, div. I, title X, § 1022(e), Nov. 12, 1996, 110 Stat. 4213.)

## REFERENCES IN TEXT

This Act, referred to in subsecs. (b)(2), (c)(1)(B), and (e)(1), is Pub. L. 98-603, Oct. 30, 1984, 98 Stat. 3155, as amended, known as the San Juan Basin Wilderness Protection Act of 1984. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Tables.

The Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, as amended, referred to in subsec. (c)(1)(B), is Pub. L. 94-579, Oct. 21, 1976, 90 Stat. 2743, as amended, which is classified principally to this chapter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1701 of this title and Tables.

The mining laws, referred to in subsec. (c)(2)(A), are classified generally to Title 30, Mineral Lands and Mining.

Mineral leasing laws, referred to in subsec. (c)(2)(A), have been defined in sections 351, 505, 530, and 541e of Title 30 to mean acts Oct. 20, 1914, ch. 330, 38 Stat. 741; Feb. 25, 1920, ch. 85, 41 Stat. 437; Apr. 17, 1926, ch. 158, 44 Stat. 301; and Feb. 7, 1927, ch. 66, 44 Stat. 1057. The act of Oct. 20, 1914, was repealed by Pub. L. 86-252, § 1, Sept. 9, 1959, 73 Stat. 490. The act of Feb. 25, 1920, is known as the Mineral Leasing Act and is classified generally to chapter 3A (§181 et seq.) of Title 30. The act of Apr. 17, 1926, is classified generally to subchapter VIII (§271 et seq.) of chapter 3A of Title 30. The act of Feb. 7, 1927, is classified principally to subchapter IX (§281 et seq.) of chapter 3A of Title 30. For complete classification of these Acts to the Code, see Tables.

Geothermal leasing laws, referred to in subsec. (c)(2)(A), are classified principally to chapter 23 (§1001 et seq.) of Title 30.

## CODIFICATION

November 12, 1996, referred to in subsec. (e)(1), was in the original "the date of enactment of this Act", which was translated as meaning the date of enactment of Pub. L. 104-333, which amended this section generally, to reflect the probable intent of Congress.

Section was enacted as part of the San Juan Basin Wilderness Protection Act of 1984, and not as part of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 which comprises this chapter.

## AMENDMENTS

1996—Pub. L. 104-333 amended section generally. Prior to amendment, section read as follows:

"(a) In recognition of its paramount aesthetic, natural, scientific, educational, and paleontological values, the approximately two thousand seven hundred and twenty acre area in the Albuquerque District of the Bureau of Land Management, New Mexico, known as the 'Fossil Forest', as generally depicted on a map entitled 'Fossil Forest', dated June 1983, is hereby withdrawn, subject to valid existing rights, from all forms of appropriation under the mining laws and from disposition under all laws pertaining to mineral leasing and geothermal leasing and all amendments thereto. The Secretary of the Interior shall administer the area in accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act and shall take such measures as are necessary to ensure that no activities are permitted within the area which would significantly disturb the land surface or impair the area's existing natural, educational, and scientific research values, including paleontological study, excavation, and interpretation.

"(b) Within one year of October 30, 1984, the Secretary of the Interior shall promulgate rules and regulations for the administration of the Fossil Forest area referred to in subsection (a) of this section in accordance with the provisions of this Act and shall file a copy of such rules and regulations with the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs of the United States House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the United States Senate.

"(c) The Bureau of Land Management is hereby directed to conduct a long-range study of the Fossil Forest to determine how best to manage the area's resource values identified in subsection (a) of this section. Within eight years of October 30, 1984, the Secretary shall forward the study results and management plan for the area to Congress. During the study period and until Congress determines otherwise, the Fossil Forest area shall be managed under the provisions of this Act."

## CHANGE OF NAME

Committee on Natural Resources of House of Representatives treated as referring to Committee on Resources of House of Representatives by section 1(a) of Pub. L. 104-14, set out as a note preceding section 21 of Title 2, The Congress.

**CHAPTER 36—OUTER CONTINENTAL SHELF RESOURCE MANAGEMENT**

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### § 1801. Congressional findings

The Congress finds and declares that—

(1) the demand for energy in the United States is increasing and will continue to increase for the foreseeable future;

(2) domestic production of oil and gas has declined in recent years;

(3) the United States has become increasingly dependent upon imports of oil from foreign nations to meet domestic energy demand;

(4) increasing reliance on imported oil is not inevitable, but is rather subject to significant reduction by increasing the development of domestic sources of energy supply;

(5) consumption of natural gas in the United States has greatly exceeded additions to domestic reserves in recent years;

(6) technology is or can be made available which will allow significantly increased domestic production of oil and gas without undue harm or damage to the environment;

(7) the Outer Continental Shelf contains significant quantities of oil and natural gas and is a vital national resource reserve which must be carefully managed so as to realize fair value, to preserve and maintain competition, and to reflect the public interest;

(8) there presently exists a variety of technological, economic, environmental, administrative, and legal problems which tend to retard the development of the oil and natural gas reserves of the Outer Continental Shelf;

(9) environmental and safety regulations relating to activities on the Outer Continental Shelf should be reviewed in light of current technology and information;

(10) the development, processing, and distribution of the oil and gas resources of the Outer Continental Shelf, and the siting of related energy facilities, may cause adverse impacts on various States and local governments;

(11) policies, plans, and programs developed by States and local governments in response to activities on the Outer Continental Shelf cannot anticipate and ameliorate such adverse impacts unless such States, working in close cooperation with affected local governments, are provided with timely access to information regarding activities on the Outer Continental Shelf and an opportunity to review and comment on decisions relating to such activities;

(12) funds must be made available to pay for the prompt removal of any oil spilled or discharged as a result of activities on the Outer Continental Shelf and for any damages to public or private interests caused by such spills or discharges;

(13) because of the possible conflicts between exploitation of the oil and gas resources in the Outer Continental Shelf and other uses of the marine environment, including fish and shellfish growth and recovery, and recreational activity, the Federal Government must assume responsibility for the minimization or elimination of any conflict associated with such exploitation;

(14) the oil and gas resources of the Outer Continental Shelf are limited, nonrenewable resources which must be developed in a manner which takes into consideration the Nation's long-range energy needs and also assures adequate protection of the renewable resources of the Outer Continental Shelf which are a continuing and increasingly important source of food and protein to the Nation and the world; and

(15) funds must be made available to pay for damage to commercial fishing vessels and gear resulting from activities involving oil and gas exploration, development, and production on the Outer Continental Shelf.

(Pub. L. 95-372, title I, §101, Sept. 18, 1978, 92 Stat. 630.)

#### SHORT TITLE OF 1988 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 100-610, title I, §1, Nov. 5, 1988, 102 Stat. 3176, provided that: "This Act [probably should be 'This title', which amended section 1815 of this title] may be cited as the 'Outer Continental Shelf Operations Indemnification Clarification Act of 1988'."

#### SHORT TITLE

Section 1 of Pub. L. 95-372 provided: "That this Act [enacting this chapter, sections 1344 to 1356 of this title, and section 237 of Title 30, Mineral Lands and Mining, amending sections 1331 to 1334, 1337, 1340, and 1343 of this title, sections 1456, 1456a, and 1464 of Title 16, Conservation, and section 6213 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare, and enacting provisions set out as notes under sections 1348 and 1811 of this title] may be cited as the 'Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act Amendments of 1978'."

### § 1802. Congressional declaration of purposes

The purposes of this chapter are to—

(1) establish policies and procedures for managing the oil and natural gas resources of the Outer Continental Shelf which are intended to result in expedited exploration and development of the Outer Continental Shelf in order to achieve national economic and energy policy goals, assure national security, reduce dependence on foreign sources, and maintain a favorable balance of payments in world trade;

(2) preserve, protect, and develop oil and natural gas resources in the Outer Continental Shelf in a manner which is consistent with the need (A) to make such resources available to meet the Nation's energy needs as rapidly as possible, (B) to balance orderly energy resource development with protection of the human, marine, and coastal environments, (C) to insure the public a fair and equitable return