

**(c) Limitations****(1) Administrative expenses**

Not more than 10 percent of the amount made available to carry out this section during a fiscal year may be used by the Secretary for expenses associated with administration of the program authorized by this section.

**(2) Construction costs**

None of the funds made available under this section may be used for the construction of a new building or the acquisition, expansion, remodeling, or alteration of an existing building (including site grading and improvement and architect fees).

**(d) Reports**

An eligible entity that receives a grant or contract or enters into a cooperative agreement under this section shall submit an annual progress report and a final technical report to the Secretary that—

(1) describes project activities, implications of the project, the significance of the project to marine mineral research, identification, assessment, and exploration, and potential commercial and economic benefits and effects of the project; and

(2) in the case of an annual progress report, includes a project plan for the subsequent year.

(Pub. L. 91-631, title II, §203, as added Pub. L. 104-325, §2(3), Oct. 19, 1996, 110 Stat. 3995.)

## CODIFICATION

October 19, 1996, referred to in subsec. (a)(2)(C), was in the original “the date of enactment of this Act”, which was translated as meaning the date of enactment of Pub. L. 104-135, which enacted this chapter, to reflect the probable intent of Congress.

**§ 1904. Marine mineral research centers****(a) In general**

No later than 90 days after October 19, 1996, the Secretary shall designate 3 centers for marine mineral research and related activities.

**(b) Concentration**

One center shall concentrate primarily on research in the continental shelf regions of the United States, 1 center shall concentrate primarily on research in deep seabed and near-shore environments of islands, and 1 center shall concentrate primarily on research in arctic and cold water regions.

**(c) Criteria**

In designating a center under this section, the Secretary shall give priority to a university that—

(1) administers a federally funded center for marine minerals research;

(2) matriculates students for advanced degrees in marine geological sciences, nonenergy natural resources, and related fields of science and engineering;

(3) is a United States university with established programs and facilities that primarily focus on marine mineral resources;

(4) has engaged in collaboration and cooperation with industry, governmental agencies,

and other universities in the field of marine mineral resources;

(5) has demonstrated significant engineering, development, and design experience in two or more of the following areas;<sup>1</sup>

(A) seabed exploration systems;

(B) marine mining systems; and

(C) marine mineral processing systems; and

(6) has been designated by the Secretary as a State Mining and Mineral Resources Research Institute.

**(d) Center activities**

A center shall—

(1) provide technical assistance to the Secretary concerning marine mineral resources;

(2) advise the Secretary on pertinent international activities in marine mineral resources development;

(3) engage in research, training, and education transfer associated with the characterization and utilization of marine mineral resources; and

(4) promote the efficient identification, assessment, exploration, and management of marine mineral resources in an environmentally sound manner.

**(e) Allocation of funds**

In distributing funds to the centers designated under subsection (a) of this section, the Secretary shall, to the extent practicable, allocate an equal amount to each center.

**(f) Limitations****(1) Administrative expenses**

Not more than 5 percent of the amount made available to carry out this section during a fiscal year may be used by the Secretary for expenses associated with administration of the program authorized by this section.

**(2) Construction costs**

None of the funds made available under this section may be used for the construction of a new building or the acquisition, expansion, remodeling, or alteration of an existing building (including site grading and improvement and architect fees).

(Pub. L. 91-631, title II, §204, as added Pub. L. 104-325, §2(3), Oct. 19, 1996, 110 Stat. 3998.)

**§ 1905. Authorization of appropriations**

There is authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this chapter.

(Pub. L. 91-631, title II, §205, as added Pub. L. 104-325, §2(3), Oct. 19, 1996, 110 Stat. 3999.)

**CHAPTER 32—METHANE HYDRATE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT**

Sec.	
2001.	Findings.
2002.	Definitions.
2003.	Methane hydrate research and development program.
2004.	National Research Council study.
2005.	Reports and studies for Congress.
2006.	Authorization of appropriations.

<sup>1</sup> So in original. The semicolon probably should be a colon.

## CODIFICATION

This chapter is comprised of Pub. L. 106-193, as amended generally by Pub. L. 109-58, title IX, §968(a), Aug. 8, 2005, 119 Stat. 894, known as the Methane Hydrate Research and Development Act of 2000, which was formerly set out as a note under section 1902 of this title.

**§ 2001. Findings**

Congress finds that—

(1) in order to promote energy independence and meet the increasing demand for energy, the United States will require a diversified portfolio of substantially increased quantities of electricity, natural gas, and transportation fuels;

(2) according to the report submitted to Congress by the National Research Council entitled “Charting the Future of Methane Hydrate Research in the United States”, the total United States resources of gas hydrates have been estimated to be on the order of 200,000 trillion cubic feet;

(3) according to the report of the National Commission on Energy Policy entitled “Ending the Energy Stalemate—A Bipartisan Strategy to Meet America’s Energy Challenge”, and dated December 2004, the United States may be endowed with over one-fourth of the methane hydrate deposits in the world;

(4) according to the Energy Information Administration, a shortfall in natural gas supply from conventional and unconventional sources is expected to occur in or about 2020; and

(5) the National Academy of Sciences states that methane hydrate may have the potential to alleviate the projected shortfall in the natural gas supply.

(Pub. L. 106-193, §2, as added Pub. L. 109-58, title IX, §968(a), Aug. 8, 2005, 119 Stat. 894.)

## PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 2 of Pub. L. 106-193 was set out in a note under section 1902 of this title prior to the general amendment of Pub. L. 106-193 by Pub. L. 109-58.

## SHORT TITLE

Pub. L. 106-193, §1, as added by Pub. L. 109-58, title IX, §968(a), Aug. 8, 2005, 119 Stat. 894, provided that: “This Act [enacting this chapter] may be cited as the ‘Methane Hydrate Research and Development Act of 2000.’”

## RECLASSIFICATION

Pub. L. 109-58, title IX, §968(b), Aug. 8, 2005, 119 Stat. 898, provided that: “The Law Revision Counsel shall reclassify the Methane Hydrate Research and Development Act of 2000 (30 U.S.C. 1902 note; Public Law 106-193) to a new chapter at the end of title 30, United States Code.”

**§ 2002. Definitions**

In this chapter:

**(1) Contract**

The term “contract” means a procurement contract within the meaning of section 6303 of title 31.

**(2) Cooperative agreement**

The term “cooperative agreement” means a cooperative agreement within the meaning of section 6305 of title 31.

**(3) Director**

The term “Director” means the Director of the National Science Foundation.

**(4) Grant**

The term “grant” means a grant awarded under a grant agreement (within the meaning of section 6304 of title 31).

**(5) Industrial enterprise**

The term “industrial enterprise” means a private, nongovernmental enterprise that has an expertise or capability that relates to methane hydrate research and development.

**(6) Institution of higher education**

The term “institution of higher education” means an institution of higher education (as defined in section 1002 of title 20).

**(7) Secretary**

The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Energy, acting through the Assistant Secretary for Fossil Energy.

**(8) Secretary of Commerce**

The term “Secretary of Commerce” means the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Administrator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

**(9) Secretary of Defense**

The term “Secretary of Defense” means the Secretary of Defense, acting through the Secretary of the Navy.

**(10) Secretary of the Interior**

The term “Secretary of the Interior” means the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Director of the United States Geological Survey, the Director of the Bureau of Land Management, and the Director of the Minerals Management Service.

(Pub. L. 106-193, §3, as added Pub. L. 109-58, title IX, §968(a), Aug. 8, 2005, 119 Stat. 895.)

## PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 3 of Pub. L. 106-193 was set out in a note under section 1902 of this title prior to the general amendment of Pub. L. 106-193 by Pub. L. 109-58.

**§ 2003. Methane hydrate research and development program****(a) In general****(1) Commencement of program**

Not later than 90 days after August 8, 2005, the Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Commerce, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Director, shall commence a program of methane hydrate research and development in accordance with this section.

**(2) Designations**

The Secretary, the Secretary of Commerce, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Director shall designate individuals to carry out this section.

**(3) Coordination**

The individual designated by the Secretary shall coordinate all activities within the Department of Energy relating to methane hydrate research and development.