PART D—RESIDENTIAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY RATING GUIDELINES

§ 8236. Voluntary rating guidelines

(a) In general

Not later than 18 months after October 24, 1992, the Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, representatives of existing home energy rating programs, and other appropriate persons, shall, by rule, issue voluntary guidelines that may be used by State and local governments, utilities, builders, real estate agents, lenders, agencies in mortgage markets, and others, to enable and encourage the assignment of energy efficiency ratings to residential buildings.

(b) Contents of guidelines

The voluntary guidelines issued under subsection (a) of this section shall—

(1) encourage uniformity with regard to systems for rating the annual energy efficiency of residential buildings;

(2) establish protocols and procedures for—

(A) certification of the technical accuracy of building energy analysis tools used to determine energy efficiency ratings;

(B) training of personnel conducting energy efficiency ratings;

(C) data collection and reporting;

(D) quality control; and

(E) monitoring and evaluation;

(3) encourage consistency with, and support for, the uniform plan for Federal energy efficient mortgages, including that developed under section 946 of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 12712 note) and pursuant to sections 105 and 106 of the Energy Policy Act of 1992;

(4) provide that rating systems take into account local climate conditions and construction practices, solar energy collected on-site, and the benefits of peak load shifting construction practices, and not discriminate among fuel types; and

(5) establish procedures to ensure that residential buildings can receive an energy efficiency rating at the time of sale and that such rating is communicated to potential buyers.


REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 946 of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act, referred to in subsec. (b)(3), is section 946 of Pub. L. 101–625, which is set out as a note under section 12712 of this title.


§ 8236a. Technical assistance

Not later than 2 years after October 24, 1992, the Secretary shall establish a program to provide technical assistance to State and local organizations to encourage the adoption of and use of residential energy efficiency rating systems consistent with the voluntary guidelines issued under section 8236 of this title.


§ 8236b. Report

Not later than 3 years after October 24, 1992, the Secretary shall transmit to the President and the Congress a final report containing—

(1) a description of actions taken by the Secretary and other Federal agencies to implement this part;

(2) a description of the action taken by States, local governments, and other organizations to implement the voluntary guidelines issued under section 8236 of this title and any problems encountered in implementing such guidelines; and

(3) recommendations on the feasibility of requiring, as a prerequisite to receiving federally assisted, guaranteed, or insured mortgages, the achievement of a minimum energy efficiency rating.


SUBCHAPTER III—FEDERAL ENERGY INITIATIVE

PART A—DEMONSTRATION OF SOLAR HEATING AND COOLING IN FEDERAL BUILDINGS

§ 8241. Definitions

As used in the part—

(1) The term “Federal agency” means—

(A) an Executive agency as defined in section 105 of title 5; and

(B) each entity specified in subparagraphs (B) through (I) of subsection (1) of section 5721 of title 5.

(2) The term “Federal building” means any building or other structure owned in whole or part by the United States or any Federal agency, including any such structure occupied by a Federal agency under a lease-acquisition agreement under which the United States or a Federal agency will receive fee simple title to any Federal building, the use of solar energy to meet all or part of the heating needs of such building for hot water.

(3) The term “solar heating” means, with respect to any Federal building, the use of solar energy to meet all or part of the heating needs of such building (including hot water), or all or part of the needs of such building for hot water.

(4) The term “solar heating and cooling” means the use of solar energy to provide all or part of the heating needs of a Federal building (including hot water) and all or part of the cooling needs of such building, or all or part of the needs of such building for hot water.

(5) The term “solar energy equipment” means equipment for solar heating or solar heating and cooling.
§ 8242. Federal solar program

The Secretary, in consultation with the Administrator of the General Services Administration, shall develop and carry out a program to demonstrate the application to buildings of solar heating and solar heating and cooling technology in Federal buildings.

§ 8243. Duties of Secretary

(a) Duties

In exercising the authority provided by section 8242 of this title, the Secretary, in consultation with the Administrator of the General Services Administration, shall—

(1) promulgate, by rule—

(A) requirements under which Federal agencies shall submit proposals for the installation of solar energy equipment in Federal buildings which are under their control and which are selected in accordance with procedures set forth in such rule, and

(B) criteria by which proposals under subparagraph (A) will be evaluated, which criteria shall provide for the inclusion in each proposal of a complete analysis of the present value, as determined by the Secretary, of the costs and benefits of the proposal to the Federal agency, and for the demonstration, to the maximum extent practicable, of innovative and diverse applications to a variety of types of Federal buildings of solar heating and solar heating and cooling technology, and for location of demonstration projects in areas where a private sector market for solar energy equipment is likely to develop;

(2) evaluate in writing each such proposal pursuant to the criteria promulgated pursuant to paragraph (1)(B), and make such evaluation available to the agency and, upon request, to any person;

(3) provide technical and financial assistance by interagency agreement for implementing a proposal evaluated under paragraph (2) and approved by the Secretary; except that such assistance shall be limited to the design, acquisition, construction, and installation of solar energy equipment;

(4) provide, by rule, that Federal agencies report to the Secretary periodically such information as they acquire respecting maintenance and operation of solar energy equipment for which assistance is provided under paragraph (3);

(5) require that a life cycle cost analysis in accordance with part B be done for any Federal building for which a proposal is submitted under this section and the results of such analysis be included in such proposal; and

(6) if solar energy equipment for which assistance is to be provided under paragraph (3) is not the minimum life-cycle cost alternative, require the Federal agency involved to submit a report to the Secretary stating the amount by which the life-cycle cost of such equipment exceeds the minimum life-cycle cost.

(b) Contents of proposals

Proposals under paragraph (1)(A) of subsection (a) of this section shall include a list of the specific Federal buildings proposed to be provided with solar energy equipment, the funds necessary for the acquisition and installation of such equipment, the proposed implementation schedule, maintenance costs, the estimated savings in fossil fuels and electricity, the estimated payback time, and such other information as may be required by the Secretary.

(c) Initial submission of proposals

Under the requirements established under subsection (a)(1)(A) of this section, initial proposals for the installation of solar energy equipment in Federal buildings selected under subsection (a)(1)(A) of this section shall be submitted not later than 180 days after the date of promulgation of the rule under subsection (a)(1) of this section.

(d) Program to disseminate information to Federal procurement and loan officers

In order to more widely disseminate information about the program under this part and under part B and the benefits of renewable energy and energy efficiency technology, the Secretary shall establish a program which includes site visits and technical briefings, to disseminate such information to Federal procurement officers and Federal loan officers. The Secretary shall utilize available funds for the program under this subsection.

§ 8244. Authorization of appropriations

There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary through fiscal year ending September 30, 1980, to carry out the purposes of this part not to exceed $100,000,000. Funds so appropriated may be transferred by the Secretary to any Federal agency to the extent necessary to carry out the purposes of section 8243(a)(3) of this title.

PART B—FEDERAL ENERGY MANAGEMENT

§ 8251. Findings

The Congress finds that—

(1) the Federal Government is the largest single energy consumer in the Nation;

(2) the cost of meeting the Federal Government’s energy requirement is substantial;