

§ 16515. Limitation on commitments to guarantee loans

(a) Notwithstanding section 101,¹ subject to the Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990, as amended [2 U.S.C. 661 et seq.], commitments to guarantee loans under title XVII of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 [42 U.S.C. 16501 et seq.] shall not exceed a total principal amount, any part of which is to be guaranteed, of \$4,000,000,000: *Provided*, That there are appropriated for the cost of the guaranteed loans such sums as are hereafter derived from amounts received from borrowers pursuant to section 16512(b)(2) of this title, to remain available until expended: *Provided further*, That the source of payments received from borrowers for the subsidy cost shall not be a loan or other debt obligation that is made or guaranteed by the Federal government.² In addition, fees collected pursuant to section 16512(h) of this title in fiscal year 2007 shall be credited as offsetting collections to the Departmental Administration account for administrative expenses of the Loan Guarantee Program: *Provided further*, That the sum appropriated for administrative expenses for the Loan Guarantee Program shall be reduced by the amount of fees received during fiscal year 2007: *Provided further*, That any fees collected under section 16512(h) of this title in excess of the amount appropriated for administrative expenses shall not be available until appropriated.

(b) No loan guarantees may be awarded under title XVII of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 [42 U.S.C. 16501 et seq.] until final regulations are issued that include—

(1) programmatic, technical, and financial factors the Secretary will use to select projects for loan guarantees;

(2) policies and procedures for selecting and monitoring lenders and loan performance; and

(3) any other policies, procedures, or information necessary to implement title XVII of the Energy Policy Act of 2005.

(c) The Secretary of Energy shall enter into an arrangement with an independent auditor for annual evaluations of the program under title XVII of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 [42 U.S.C. 16501 et seq.]. In addition to the independent audit, the Comptroller General shall conduct a review every three years of the Department's execution of the program under title XVII of the Energy Policy Act of 2005. The results of the independent audit and the Comptroller General's review shall be provided directly to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

(d) The Secretary of Energy shall promulgate final regulations for loan guarantees under title XVII of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 [42 U.S.C. 16501 et seq.] within 6 months of February 15, 2007.

(e) Not later than 120 days after February 15, 2007, and annually thereafter, the Secretary of Energy shall transmit to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate a report containing a summary of all activities under title XVII of the Energy Policy

Act of 2005 [42 U.S.C. 16511 et seq.], beginning in fiscal year 2007, with a listing of responses to loan guarantee solicitations under such title, describing the technologies, amount of loan guarantee sought, and the applicants' assessment of risk.

(Pub. L. 109-289, div. B, title II, §20320, as added Pub. L. 110-5, §2, Feb. 15, 2007, 121 Stat. 21; amended Pub. L. 113-76, div. D, title III, §307, Jan. 17, 2014, 128 Stat. 175.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 101, referred to in subsec. (a), is section 101 of title I of div. B of Pub. L. 109-289, as added by Pub. L. 110-5, §2, Feb. 15, 2007, 121 Stat. 8. Subsec. (b) of section 101 is classified as a note under section 12651i of this title. Subsecs. (a) and (c) of section 101 are not classified to the Code.

The Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990, referred to in subsec. (a), is title V of Pub. L. 93-344, as added by Pub. L. 101-508, title XIII, §13201(a), Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 1388-609, which is classified generally to subchapter III (§661 et seq.) of chapter 17A of Title 2, The Congress. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 621 of Title 2 and Tables.

The Energy Policy Act of 2005, referred to in text, is Pub. L. 109-58, Aug. 8, 2005, 119 Stat. 594. Title XVII of the Act is classified generally to this subchapter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 15801 of this title and Tables.

CODIFICATION

Section was enacted as part of the Continuing Appropriations Resolution, 2007, and not as part of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 which comprises this chapter.

AMENDMENTS

2014—Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 113-76 substituted “a review every three years” for “an annual review”.

§ 16516. Omitted

Editorial Notes

CODIFICATION

Section, Pub. L. 109-58, title XVII, §1705, as added Pub. L. 111-5, div. A, title IV, §406(a), Feb. 17, 2009, 123 Stat. 145, which related to temporary program for rapid deployment of renewable energy and electric power transmission projects, was omitted from the Code due to expiration of authority to enter into guarantees under this section on Sept. 30, 2011.

§ 16517. Energy infrastructure reinvestment financing

(a) In general

Notwithstanding section 16513 of this title, the Secretary may make guarantees, including refinancing, under this section only for projects that—

(1) retool, repower, repurpose, or replace energy infrastructure that has ceased operations; or

(2) enable operating energy infrastructure to avoid, reduce, utilize, or sequester air pollutants or anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases.

(b) Inclusion

A project under subsection (a) may include the remediation of environmental damage associated with energy infrastructure.

¹ See References in Text note below.

² So in original. Probably should be capitalized.

§ 16517. Energy infrastructure reinvestment financing

(a) In general

Notwithstanding section 16513 of this title, the Secretary may make guarantees, including refinancing, under this section only for projects that --

(1) retool, repower, repurpose, or replace energy infrastructure that has ceased operations;

(2) enable operating energy infrastructure to increase capacity or output; or

(3) support or enable the provision of known or forecastable electric supply at time intervals necessary to maintain or enhance grid reliability or other system adequacy needs.

(c) Requirement

~~A project under subsection (a)(1) that involves electricity generation through the use of fossil fuels shall be required to have controls or technologies to avoid, reduce, utilize, or sequester air pollutants and anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases.~~

(d) Application

To apply for a guarantee under this section, an applicant shall submit to the Secretary an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require, including—

- (1) a detailed plan describing the proposed project;
- (2) an analysis of how the proposed project will engage with and affect associated communities; and
- (3) in the case of an applicant that is an electric utility, an assurance that the electric utility shall pass on any financial benefit from the guarantee made under this section to the customers of, or associated communities served by, the electric utility.

(e) Term

Notwithstanding section 16512(f) of this title, the term of an obligation shall require full repayment over a period not to exceed 30 years.

(f) Definition of energy infrastructure

In this section, the term “energy infrastructure” means a facility, and associated equipment, used for—

- ~~(1) the generation or transmission of electric energy; or~~
- ~~(2) the production, processing, and delivery of fossil fuels, fuels derived from petroleum, or petrochemical feedstocks.~~

(Pub. L. 109-58, title XVII, §1706, as added Pub. L. 117-169, title V, §50144(c), Aug. 16, 2022, 136 Stat. 2045.)

SUBCHAPTER XVI—STUDIES

§ 16521. Report on energy integration with Latin America

The Secretary shall submit an annual report to the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the United States House of Representatives and to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate concerning the status of energy export development in Latin America and efforts by the Secretary and other departments and agencies of the United States to promote energy integration with Latin America. The report shall contain a detailed analysis of the status of energy export development in Mexico and a description of all significant efforts by the Secretary and other departments and agencies to promote a constructive relationship with Mexico regarding the development of that nation’s energy capacity. In particular this report shall outline efforts the Secretary and other departments and agencies have made to ensure that regulatory approval and oversight of United States/Mexico border projects that result in the expansion of Mexican energy capacity are effectively coordinated across departments and with the Mexican government.

(Pub. L. 109-58, title XVIII, §1807, Aug. 8, 2005, 119 Stat. 1124.)

§ 16522. Low-volume gas reservoir study

(a) Study

The Secretary shall make a grant to an organization of oil and gas producing States, specifically those containing significant numbers of marginal oil and natural gas wells, for conducting an annual study of low-volume natural gas reservoirs. ~~Such organization shall work with the State being studied.~~

For ICR

(b) Contents

The studies under this section shall—

- (1) determine the status and location of marginal wells and gas reservoirs;
- (2) gather the production information of these marginal wells and reservoirs;
- (3) estimate the remaining producible reserves based on variable pipeline pressures;
- (4) locate low-pressure gathering facilities and pipelines;
- (5) recommend incentives which will enable the continued production of these resources;
- (6) produce maps and literature to disseminate to States to promote conservation of natural gas reserves; and
- (7) evaluate the amount of natural gas that is being wasted through the practice of venting or flaring of natural gas produced in association with crude oil well production.

(c) Data analysis

Data development and analysis under this section shall be performed by an institution of higher education with GIS capabilities. If the organization receiving the grant under subsection (a) does not have GIS capabilities, such organization shall contract with one or more entities with—

- (1) technological capabilities and resources to perform advanced image processing, GIS programming, and data analysis; and
- (2) the ability to—
 - (A) process remotely sensed imagery with high spatial resolution;
 - (B) deploy global positioning systems;
 - (C) process and synthesize existing, variable-format gas well, pipeline, gathering facility, and reservoir data;
 - (D) create and query GIS databases with infrastructure location and attribute information;
 - (E) write computer programs to customize relevant GIS software;
 - (F) generate maps, charts, and graphs which summarize findings from data research for presentation to different audiences; and
 - (G) deliver data in a variety of formats, including Internet Map Server for query and display, desktop computer display, and access through handheld personal digital assistants.

(d) Authorization of appropriations

There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary for carrying out this section—

- (1) \$1,500,000 for fiscal year 2006; and

(c) Application
To apply for a guarantee under this section, an applicant shall submit to the Secretary an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require, including
(1) a detailed plan describing the proposed project; and
(2) in the case of an applicant that is an electric utility, an assurance that the electric utility shall pass on any financial benefit from the guarantee made under this section to the customers of, or associated communities served by, the electric utility.

(e) Definition of energy infrastructure
In this section, the term “energy infrastructure” means a facility, and associated equipment, used for enabling the identification, leasing, development, production, processing, transportation, transmission, refining, and generation needed for energy and critical minerals.

(f) Funding.
(1) In general.
In addition to amounts otherwise available, there is appropriated to the Secretary for fiscal year 2025, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, \$1,000,000,000, to remain available through September 30, 2028, to carry out activities under this section.
(2) Administrative costs.
Of the amount made available under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall use not more than 3 percent for administrative expenses.

Commitment Authority Note:
Section 50144(b) of Public Law 117 -169 (commonly known as the “Inflation Reduction Act of 2022”) (136 Stat. 2045) is amended by striking “2026” and inserting “2028”
The Secretary may make, through September 30, 2026 2028, commitments to guarantee loans for projects under section 1706 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 the total principal amount of which is not greater than \$250,000,000,000, subject to the limitations that apply to loan guarantees under section 50141(d).