

Subtitle G—Island Energy

SEC. 371. AFFILIATED ISLAND ENERGY INDEPENDENCE

TEAM.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) AFFILIATED ISLAND.—The term “affiliated island” means—

(A) the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico;

(B) Guam;

(C) American Samoa;

(D) the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands;

(E) the Federated States of Micronesia;

(F) the Republic of the Marshall Islands;

(G) the Republic of Palau; and

(H) the United States Virgin Islands.

(2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Energy (acting through the Assistant Secretary of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy), in consultation with the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of State.

(3) TEAM.—The term “team” means the team established by the Secretary under subsection (b).

1 (b) ESTABLISHMENT.—As soon as practicable after
2 the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall as-
3 semble a team of technical, policy, and financial experts
4 to address the energy needs of each affiliated island—

5 (1) to reduce the reliance and expenditure of
6 each affiliated island on imported fossil fuels;

7 (2) to increase the use by each affiliated island
8 of indigenous, nonfossil fuel energy sources;

9 (3) to improve the performance of the energy
10 infrastructure of the affiliated island through
11 projects—

12 (A) to improve the energy efficiency of
13 power generation, transmission, and distribu-
14 tion; and

15 (B) to increase consumer energy efficiency;

16 (4) to improve the performance of the energy
17 infrastructure of each affiliated island through en-
18 hanced planning, education, and training;

19 (5) to adopt research-based and public-private
20 partnership-based approaches as appropriate;

21 (6) to stimulate economic development and job
22 creation; and

23 (7) to enhance the engagement by the Federal
24 Government in international efforts to address island
25 energy needs.

1 (c) DUTIES OF TEAM.—

2 (1) ENERGY ACTION PLANS.—

3 (A) IN GENERAL.—In accordance with
4 subparagraph (B), the team shall provide tech-
5 nical, programmatic, and financial assistance to
6 each utility of each affiliated island, and the
7 government of each affiliated island, as appro-
8 priate, to develop and implement an energy Ac-
9 tion Plan for each affiliated island to reduce the
10 reliance of each affiliated island on imported
11 fossil fuels through increased efficiency and use
12 of indigenous clean-energy resources.

13 (B) REQUIREMENTS.—Each Action Plan
14 described in subparagraph (A) for each affili-
15 ated island shall require and provide for—

16 (i) the conduct of 1 or more studies to
17 assess opportunities to reduce fossil fuel
18 use through—

19 (I) the improvement of the en-
20 ergy efficiency of the affiliated island;
21 and

22 (II) the increased use by the af-
23 filiated island of indigenous clean-en-
24 ergy resources;

1 (ii) the identification and implementa-
2 tion of the most cost-effective strategies
3 and projects to reduce the dependence of
4 the affiliated island on fossil fuels;

5 (iii) the promotion of education and
6 training activities to improve the capacity
7 of the local utilities of the affiliated island,
8 and the government of the affiliated island,
9 as appropriate, to plan for, maintain, and
10 operate the energy infrastructure of the af-
11 filiated island through the use of local or
12 regional institutions, as appropriate;

13 (iv) the coordination of the activities
14 described in clause (iii) to leverage the ex-
15 pertise and resources of international enti-
16 ties, the Department of Energy, the De-
17 partment of the Interior, and the regional
18 utilities of the affiliated island;

19 (v) the identification, and develop-
20 ment, as appropriate, of research-based
21 and private-public, partnership approaches
22 to implement the Action Plan; and

23 (vi) any other component that the
24 Secretary determines to be necessary to re-

1 duce successfully the use by each affiliated
2 island of fossil fuels.

3 (2) REPORTS TO SECRETARY.—Not later than
4 1 year after the date on which the Secretary estab-
5 lishes the team and biannually thereafter, the team
6 shall submit to the Secretary a report that contains
7 a description of the progress of each affiliated island
8 in—

9 (A) implementing the Action Plan of the
10 affiliated island developed under paragraph
11 (1)(A); and

12 (B) reducing the reliance of the affiliated
13 island on fossil fuels.

14 (d) USE OF REGIONAL UTILITY ORGANIZATIONS.—
15 To provide expertise to affiliated islands to assist the af-
16 filiated islands in meeting the purposes of this section, the
17 Secretary shall consider—

18 (1) including regional utility organizations in
19 the establishment of the team; and

20 (2) providing assistance through regional utility
21 organizations.

22 (e) ANNUAL REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—Not later
23 than 30 days after the date on which the Secretary re-
24 ceives a report submitted by the team under subsection
25 (c)(2), the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate com-

1 mittees of Congress a report that contains a summary of
2 the report of the team.

3 (f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
4 are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are nec-
5 essary to carry out this section.