

1 projects, administration of the navigable waterways, and
2 maintenance of water quality standards finds that the tech-
3 nology for the conversion of saline and other chemically con-
4 taminated waters is vital to all these areas of responsibility.
5 It is the policy of the Congress, therefore, to provide for the
6 development and demonstration of practicable means to con-
7 vert saline and other chemically contaminated water to a
8 quality suitable for municipal, industrial, agricultural, and
9 other beneficial uses and to improve the quality of saline and
10 other chemically contaminated waste waters to protect the
11 quality of natural waters.”

12 SEC. 2. The Secretary of the Interior is authorized and
13 directed to:

14 (a) conduct, encourage, and promote basic scientific
15 research and fundamental studies to develop effective
16 and economical processes and equipment for the pur-
17 pose of converting saline and other chemically con-
18 taminated water into water suitable for beneficial con-
19 sumptive uses or for the purpose of treating waste waters
20 to achieve qualities suitable for disposal into surface
21 streams, groundwater bodies, or the ocean;

22 (b) pursue opportunities arising during the course
23 of research and studies authorized by subsection (a) of
24 this section which have potential practical applications
25 unrelated to water treatment in order to advance the