

(b) acquire the services of chemists, physicists, engineers, economists, and other personnel by contract or otherwise;

(c) utilize the facilities of Federal scientific laboratories;

(d) undertake or provide for the construction, operation, and maintenance of the facilities necessary to carry out the research, studies, testing, development, and other functions authorized by this Act;

(e) acquire by purchase, contract for construction, license, lease, or donation, secret processes, technical data, inventions, patent applications, patents, licenses, land or any interest in land, water rights, plants and facilities, and other foreign, and in the case of projects located in the United States, cooperate and as well as dispose of any such property or rights when no longer necessary for such activities: *Provided*, That such property or rights shall be acquired or disposed of as provided in the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, as amended.

(f) assemble and maintain pertinent and current scientific literature, both domestic and foreign, and issue reports and bibliographical data with respect thereto;

(g) cause on-site inspections to be made of promising projects, domestic and foreign, and in the case of projects located in the United States, cooperate and participate in their development and operation in instances in which the purposes of this Act will be served thereby;

(h) foster and participate in regional, national, and international conferences relating to desalting;

(i) coordinate, correlate, publish, and otherwise make available information with a view to advancing the development of low-cost desalting processes;

(j) take necessary measures to preserve from loss such disclosures or discoveries as are not directly related to desalting made in the course of the research and studies authorized by section 3(a) of this Act;

(k) dispose of water or byproducts resulting from activities authorized by this Act in such manner as the Secretary shall determine best promotes the purposes thereof, with all monies received by dispositions under this section or section 4(e) to be paid into the Treasury as miscellaneous receipts;

(l) cooperate and participate in any of the foregoing activities together with other Federal departments and agencies, with state and local departments, agencies, and instrumentalities, or with interested persons, firms, institutions, organizations.

SEC. 5. In providing for the construction and operation of such prototype desalting plants as may hereafter be authorized, the Secretary of the Interior may participate with a Federal or state agency (including a political subdivision thereof.) Whenever the other participant is a non-Federal agency, the Federal financial contribution shall be limited to 50 percent of the construction cost and 50 percent of the operating and maintenance cost during the initial operating period, not to exceed three years following plant acceptance.

SEC. 6. By the end of fiscal year 1976, the Secretary of the Interior shall submit a report to the President and the Congress describing the status of the program authorized by this Act and shall include recommendations on the future role that the Federal Government should play in the desalting program.

SEC. 7. The Secretaries of the Interior, Defense, State, Agriculture, Commerce, Health, Education, and Welfare; and Housing and Urban Development; the Atomic Energy Commission and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency shall each cooperate and coordinate their respective programs to effectuate the purposes of this Act.

SEC. 8. Nothing in this Act shall be construed to alter existing law with respect to the ownership and control of water.

SEC. 9. The Secretary of the Interior shall make reports no less frequently than every two years to the President and the Congress describing the action taken or instituted by him under the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 10. The Secretary of the Interior shall issue rules and regulations to effectuate the purposes of this Act.

SEC. 11. There are authorized to be appropriated such sums, to remain available until expended, as may be necessary (a) to carry out the provisions of this Act during fiscal years 1973 to 1977, inclusive, (b) to finance, for not more than three years beyond the end of said period, such grants, contracts, cooperative undertakings, and studies as may theretofore have been undertaken pursuant to this Act, and (c) to finance, for not more than one additional year, such activities as are required to correlate, coordinate, and summarize in a final report to the President and the Congress the results of the research and development undertaken pursuant to this Act: *Provided*, That not more than two percent of the