

ENERGY POLICY ACT OF 2005

SEC. 317. FEDERAL-STATE LIQUEFIED NATURAL GAS FORUMS

- (a) **IN GENERAL** – Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary, in cooperation and consultation with the Secretary of Transportation, the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, and the Governors of the Coastal States, shall convene not less than 3 forums on liquefied natural gas.
- (b) **REQUIREMENTS**. – The forums shall –
- (1) be located in areas where liquefied natural gas facilities are under consideration;
 - (2) be designed to foster dialogue among Federal officials, State and local officials, the general public, independent experts, and industry representatives; and
 - (3) at a minimum, provide an opportunity for public education and dialogue on –
 - (A) the role of liquefied natural gas in meeting current and future United States energy supply requirements and demand, in the context of the full range of energy supply options;
 - (B) the Federal and State siting and permitting processes;
 - (C) the potential risks and rewards associated with importing liquefied natural gas;
 - (D) the Federal safety and environmental requirements (including regulations) applicable to liquefied natural gas;
 - (E) prevention, mitigation, and response strategies for liquefied natural gas hazards; and
 - (F) additional issues as appropriate
- (c) **PURPOSE**. – The purpose of the forums shall be to identify and develop best practices for addressing the issues and challenges associated with liquefied natural gas imports, building on existing cooperative efforts.
- (d) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS**. – There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section.