Orphaned¹ Well "Oil and Gas Reclamation Fund (#3322)" Activity

Data from 2003 through 2010 from DEP annual reports. Data from 2010 through 2014 from reports made by DEP pursuant to W.Va. Code 22-6-29(b). Number of wells plugged with State and Federal money came from FOIA request.

Fiscal Year	Beginning \$	Bond Forfeitures Proceeds ²	Permit Fees	TOTAL Revenue	Personal Services	Benefits	"Unclassified" (Plugging contracts?)	TOTAL Expenditures	Number of Wells Plugged with STATE Money ³	Ending \$	Number of OIL Wells Plugged with FEDERAL Money from Other Funds	Total Wells Plugged
2003-2004	\$94,066.32		\$204,100.00	\$298,166.32	\$878.66	\$390.06	\$118,410.31	\$119,679.03	4	\$178,487.29		?
2004-2005	\$178,487.00		\$213,500.00	\$391,987.00	\$3,146.00	\$888.00	\$182,742.00	\$186,776.00	5	\$205,211.00		?
2005-2006	\$205,211.00	\$5,000.00	\$394,850.00	\$399,850.00	\$54,369.00	\$19,014.00	\$181,275.00	\$254,658.00	5	\$350,403.00		?
2006-2007	\$350,404.00	\$20,000.00	\$416,500.00	\$436,500.00	\$32,528.00	\$11,002.00	\$263,719.00	\$307,249.00	5	\$479,655.00		?
2007-2008	\$479,654.00		\$523,250.00	\$523,250.00	\$64,077.00	\$21,010.00	\$220,081.00	\$305,168.00	5	\$697,736.00		?
2008-2009	\$697,735.00		\$45,070.00	\$345.070.00	\$71,607.00	\$22,155.00	\$503,057.00	\$596,819.00	9	\$445,986.00		?
2009-2010	\$445,986.00	\$50,000.00	\$209,250.00	\$259,282.00	\$67,017.00	\$20,170.00	\$459,266.00	\$546,453.00	12	\$158,815.00	8	20
2010-2011	\$158,815.00	\$50,000.00	\$184,500.00	\$234,500.00	\$51,295.00	\$15,834.00	\$86,457.00	\$153,586.00	4 + ⁴	\$239,729.00	21	25
2011-2012	\$239,729.00		\$130,650.00	\$130,676.00	\$43,098.00	\$17,590.00	\$159,240.00	\$219,928.00	1	\$150,477.00	7	8
2012-2013	\$150,477.00	\$5,000.00	\$141,400.00	\$146,400.00	\$32,917.00	\$17,852.00		\$50,769.00	1	\$246,108.00	8	9
2013-2014	\$246,108.00		\$141,250.00	\$141,250.00	\$3,433.00	\$6,924.00	\$116,212.00	\$126,570.00	2+4	\$260,788.00	6	10

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1. Confusingly, the statutes and rules use the term "abandoned well" for a well that has not been produced for one year and does not have a "bona fide future use". However, some "abandoned wells" still have a "responsible operator" with a bond on the well and so those wells are not really "abandoned" in the normal sense of the word. Other wells no longer have a responsible operator with a bond on the well. This chart uses the term"orphaned wells" for wells that no longer have a bonded responsible operator.

2. Bond amounts are \$5000 for single well bonds (uncommon) and \$50,000 for blanket bonds (common practice). This data shows that very few bonds have been forfeited by the DEP despite all of the unplugged wells and well swith other problems! Probably only six \$5000 bonds and two \$50,000 bonds between 2004 and 2014!

3. Presumably the salaries of state inspector overseeing plugging program.

4. "+" means some work other than actual well plugging was done with the money.