



RRC ENERGY MINUTE

For the 86th Legislature & the Texas Congressional Delegation

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Our mission is to serve Texas by our stewardship of natural resources and the environment, our concern for personal and community safety, and our support of enhanced development and economic vitality for the benefit of Texans.

State Managed Well Plugging Program Beats FY 2018/19 Targets

The Railroad Commission’s state managed well plugging program works to eliminate the safety and environmental risks associated with abandoned wells. Established in 1984, the program has plugged 39,655 wells across Texas using fees paid by the oil and gas industry.

The RRC plugged a total of 3,074 abandoned wells during the FY 2018/19 biennium. This represents the highest total since FY 2006/07.

In fact, RRC ended the FY 2018/19 biennium by plugging more wells than required by the General Appropriation Act’s performance measures. In FY 2018, the agency plugged 1,364 wells, 385 more than the budget target of 979. By August 31st, 2019, the end of FY 2019, RRC had plugged 1,710 abandoned wells for the fiscal year, exceeding the annual performance measure by 731.

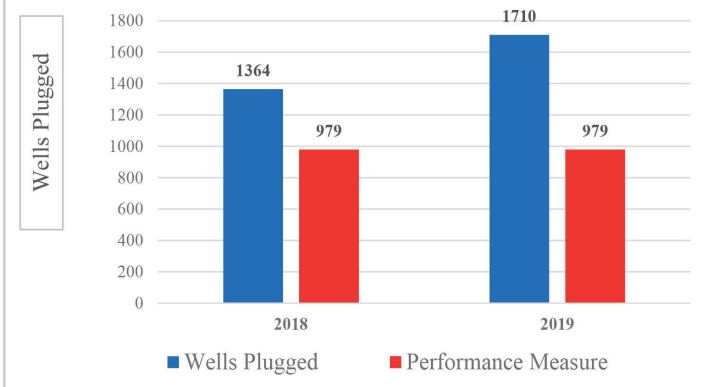


This 45 year old abandoned well was found to be leaking gas within inundated marsh land in Galveston County. RRC’s well plugging program is working to plug this well in September 2019.



RRC capped this abandoned leaking well in Archer County earlier this year. In addition to plugging the well to stop the environmental threat, the released fluids were disposed of properly and the contaminated soil was remediated.

Wells Plugged vs. FY 2018/19 Performance Measures



In The News: RRC Receives National Energy Education Award for RRC OIL

In August RRC received the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission’s 2019 Chairman’s Stewardship Award in recognition of RRC Online Inspection Lookup (RRC OIL). Launched in January 2019, RRC OIL allows members of the public to search for real-time inspection and violation data for oil and gas wells across Texas. Users may access RRC OIL 24/7 on the RRC website at rrc.texas.gov.



rrc.texas.gov

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