

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 60th Legislature (2025)

POLICY COMMITTEE
RECOMMENDATION

FOR ENGROSSED

SENATE BILL NO. 132

By: Burns and Green of the
Senate

and

Boles of the House

POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

An Act relating to the Corporation Commission;
amending 17 O.S. 2021, Section 53, which relates to
plugging wells; establishing maximum time period for
plugging certain wells; defining terms; directing
rule promulgation; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 17 O.S. 2021, Section 53, is
amended to read as follows:

Section 53. A. The Corporation Commission is hereby authorized
to promulgate rules for the plugging of all ~~abandoned~~ idle oil and
gas wells. ~~Abandoned wells~~ Idle wells shall be plugged under the
direction and supervision of Commission employees as may be
prescribed by the Commission. Provided, however, the Commission
shall not order any oil ~~or gas~~ well to be plugged or closed if the

1 well is located on an otherwise producing oil ~~or gas~~ lease as
2 defined by the Commission, unless such well poses an imminent threat
3 to the public health and safety which shall be determined by the
4 Commission after conducting a public hearing on the matter.

5 B. An idle gas well may be shut-in for a period not to exceed
6 seven (7) years.

7 C. 1. Any operator with an idle gas well that is shut-in prior
8 to the effective date of this act shall have ten (10) years from the
9 effective date of this act to either plug or produce from the well.

10 2. An operator with idle gas wells that are shut-in prior to
11 the effective date of this act shall reduce the number of idle gas
12 wells by plugging or producing from such wells as follows:

- 13 a. not later than July 1, 2028, by reducing the number of
14 idle gas wells by at least twenty-five percent (25%),
15 b. not later than July 1, 2031, by reducing the number of
16 idle gas wells by at least fifty percent (50%), and
17 c. not later than July 1, 2035, by plugging or producing
18 from all remaining idle gas wells.

19 D. As used in this section:

20 1. "Idle well" or "idle gas well" means a non-producing well
21 with respect to which there has been no commercial production (i.e.,
22 from which there has been no sale of crude oil or natural gas) for
23 the preceding seven (7) years; and no reasonable case is made by the
24 named operator for its future use, including, without limitation,

1 for production, injection, carbon storage, and geothermal energy
2 generation;

3 2. "Non-producing well" means a well that was drilled for the
4 purpose of producing hydrocarbons and that is currently shut-in or
5 temporarily abandoned;

6 3. "Shut-in" means a well that is completed, not producing, but
7 is mechanically capable of production and has requisite surface
8 facilities; and

9 4. "Temporarily abandoned" means a well that is completed, not
10 producing, and is not shut-in.

11 E. The Commission shall promulgate rules to effectuate the
12 provisions of this section and establish any necessary enforcement
13 measures.

14 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2025.

15
16 60-1-13471 JBH 04/09/25
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24