

ALL Consulting: “There are more than 3.5 million orphan & abandoned wells in the United States. As a former U.S. EPA Enforcement Officer, I’ve been dealing with these and other wells from the oil & gas industry for 40+ years. Many of these wells are in environmentally sensitive areas, have caused soil & water contamination, have impacted drinking water, and many have uncontrolled gas emissions of compounds such as methane, H₂S, CO₂, and other gases. These wells pose not only real risks, but are the source of substantial documented and also undocumented negative environmental impacts to climate, biodiversity, and more. The Abandoned Well Remediation Research and Development Act (AWRRDA) would help us to better understand these risks and find more efficient and effective ways to address orphaned and abandoned wells.”

Dan Arthur
President & Chief Engineer
ALL Consulting

American Association of Petroleum Geologists: “Funding of orphan wells research into effective remediation will help companies effectively boost production of oil and natural gas in legacy fields, and thus meet the projected skyrocketing demand for energy. It is not possible to drill new horizontal wells in old fields without effectively identifying and plugging the orphan wells, because they pose a tremendous risk of rupture, leakage, and cross-communication, which numerous historical examples can attest to.”

Susan Nash, Ph.D.
Interim Executive Director
American Association of Petroleum Geologists

Bipartisan Policy Center Action: “We applaud Sens. Cramer (R-ND) and Lujan (D-NM) for introducing the Abandoned Well Remediation Research and Development Act (AWRRDA). This bill will build off the provisions in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act and increase DOE research to reduce leaks from orphaned wells that can contaminate groundwater and release methane. Remediating orphaned wells can reduce harmful emissions and contamination, protect human health, and generate new jobs.”

Michele Stockwell
President
Bipartisan Policy Center Action (BPC Action)

Clean Air Council: “Clean Air Council is proud to support the Abandoned Well Remediation Research & Development Act of 2025. The research established by this bill will be particularly important for Ohio, West Virginia, New York, and Pennsylvania, which together represent one of the highest concentrations of orphaned and abandoned wells in the nation with hundreds of thousands of them throughout the region. That translates to billions of dollars worth of unfunded plugging liability that taxpayers will have to foot the bill for. These wells are ticking time bombs that threaten our local environments and public health while releasing significant amounts of methane, an extremely potent greenhouse gas. This

legislation will help develop effective solutions to plugging these wells, create good-paying jobs, and combat climate change. Clean Air Council looks forward to continuing to work with Sen. Lujan, Sen. Cramer, and our leaders at the state level to come up with common sense solutions to the unplugged well crisis."

Alex Bomstein
Executive Director
Clean Air Council

Commission Shift: "The growing population of abandoned wells, combined with carbon dioxide injection, poses new threats to groundwater quality. Federal subsidies for carbon sequestration combined with a push for state primacy are unleashing rapid widespread commercial development of carbon capture and storage infrastructure in our communities, without the proper safeguards in place. Now is the time to invest in research to detect unknown wellbores and protect drinking water."

Virginia Palacios
Executive Director
Commission Shift

Environmental Defense Fund: "Orphaned oil and gas wells threaten public health and safety, the economy, the water we drink and the climate. This essential bipartisan bill will fund the research necessary to improve well plugging technologies and practices, develop beneficial clean energy uses for end-of-life wells and sites and find unregistered orphan wells in hard-to-reach places like underneath homes, schools and houses of worship and in streams, forests, and farmland. This bill will create jobs and benefit public health, particularly for communities overburdened by legacy oil and gas development."

Adam Peltz
Director and Senior Attorney for Energy Transition
Environmental Defense Fund

Evangelical Environmental Network: "Abandoned wells threaten the health and lives of all God's children, from our children both born and unborn to our elders. Abandoned and orphaned wells spew methane, volatile organic compounds, carcinogenic benzene, arsenic, and toxic metals like barium into our air, water, and soils. We thank Senators Luján and Cramer for the bipartisan Abandoned Well Remediation Research and Development Act (AWRRDA). This critical legislation will continue the work begun in the IJJA to address these legacy health threats by creating good paying jobs to find and identify more abandoned wells for clean up."

The Rev. Dr. Jessica Moerman
President/CEO
Evangelical Environmental Network

G-Forensic: “G-Forensic supports the intent of the proposal to perform research and identify the goals stated in the Abandoned Well Remediation Research and Development Act. We consider the issues of plug and abandonment well risk mitigation to be of paramount need. We are willing to provide our geolocation expertise and knowledge in support of the location goals referenced.”

John Conner
Partner
G-Forensic

GreenLatinos: “Latine communities across the country, but especially in oil producing states such as California and New Mexico, have struggled with abandoned wells for decades. These old, leaky wells not only emit dangerous toxins that put the health of our families at risk but lower property values and land productivity. This important legislation will support critical efforts to improve well-plugging and land remediation, document more orphan wells, and allow for a more comprehensive understanding of the risks they pose to our communities. Now is the time to invest in front-line communities that face disproportionate pollution burdens on a daily basis.”

Irene Burga
Climate Justice and Clean Air Program Director
GreenLatinos

Grand Canyon Trust: “We thank Senators Luján and Cramer for their continued leadership in addressing orphaned and abandoned wells. The AWRRDA provides critical funding to more accurately measure methane emissions as well as improving plugging and remediation of abandoned wells. We urge Senate leadership to include this important legislation in any end of year package.”

Amber Reimondo
Energy Director
Grand Canyon Trust

Moms Clean Air Force: “There could be over a million orphaned and abandoned oil and gas wells around the country with an estimated 300,000 to 700,000 wells unaccounted for in Pennsylvania— the most of any state in the nation. These wells can leak oil, gas, and other toxic chemicals near schools, homes, and in parks where our children play. My family is already exposed to the air pollution from nearby fracked oil and gas wells and allowing orphan and abandoned wells to go unplugged can compound the pollution burden. Moms urge the Senate to quickly pass AWRRDA which will help better monitor methane emissions and improve the plugging and remediation of abandoned wells.”

Vanessa Lynch
Pennsylvania State Coordinator
Moms Clean Air Force

National Wildlife Federation: “Abandoned wells can leak oil, toxic chemicals, and methane putting our land, water, wildlife, outdoor recreation, and rural economies at risk. The Infrastructure and Jobs Act of 2021 invested \$5 billion to plug these oil and gas wells. The bipartisan Abandoned Well Remediation Research and Development Act builds on this by investing in finding more wells, reducing plugging and reclamation costs, and finding alternative uses for abandoned wells. This investment will benefit our land, water, and wildlife all while creating good paying jobs and supporting rural communities. We thank Senators Luján and Cramer for their leadership in addressing abandoned oil and gas wells.”

David Willms
Associate Vice President, Public Lands
National Wildlife Federation

Natural Resources Defense Council: “Abandoned and orphaned wells are scattered across the country, with many of them unsealed and unaccounted for. They can emit dangerous air pollutants, contaminate drinking water, and threaten human life. This legislation offers an innovative approach to help locate these wells, make communities safer, protect clean water, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. We’re glad to see these sensible strategies proposed for dealing with this growing problem.”

Josh Axelrod
Senior Policy Advocate
Natural Resources Defense Council

New Mexico Wild: “Inactive wells that have not been properly plugged or reclaimed are a major problem throughout New Mexico, on both public and private lands. It is our hope that this funding to DOE will help BLM and state officials identify inactive wells that need to be cleaned-up immediately. We thank Senators Luján and Cramer for their leadership and this much-needed attention and funding.”

Mark Alison
Executive Director
New Mexico Wild

Ohio River Valley Institute: “We have just scratched the surface on locating the estimated four million potentially hazardous abandoned wells across the country and developing sounder solutions for permanently plugging wells and remediating and repurposing well sites. This legislation will provide a foundation to dealing with these issues by utilizing our best and brightest minds while reducing pollution, creating good jobs in economically distressed areas, and making our country a world leader in oil and gas well decommissioning.”

Ted Boettner
Senior Researcher
Ohio River Valley Institute

Oil Region Alliance: “The Oil Region National Heritage area of Pennsylvania is the birthplace of the American oil industry, where the first commercial oil well ever was drilled in 1859. The Oil Regional Alliance is proud of that past heritage but also concerned about the hundreds and hundreds of abandoned oil and gas wells in our western Pennsylvania region. Indeed, we see the cleanup of these abandoned wells as a great opportunity to put working-class Pennsylvanians into good jobs. That is why we are excited that U.S. Senators from both parties are proposing the Abandoned Well Remediation Research & Development Act – and we urge Congress and the Trump Administration to enact it.”

John R. Phillips II
President/CEO
Oil Region Alliance

Pennsylvania Environmental Council: “The Abandoned Well Remediation Research and Development Act (AWRRDA) would help Pennsylvania further address the vast challenges of legacy wells. In particular, this legislation will directly benefit the communities most impacted by abandoned wells by improved accounting of adverse impacts, more efficient spending of remediation investments, and inclusion in clean energy transition opportunities.”

John Walliser
Senior VP, Legal & Government Affairs
Pennsylvania Environmental Council

Rocky Mountain Farmers Union: “Abandoned oil and gas wells decrease land productivity and present a major challenge for farmers nationwide. The Abandoned Well Remediation Research and Development Act (AWRRDA) is a key investment in enhancing the accurate measurement of methane emissions, developing technologies to reduce well-plugging costs, improving remediation practices, and protecting our land and water. This legislation also fosters the creation of good-paying jobs and supports rural communities. We thank Senators Luján and Cramer for their leadership on this important issue and urge Congressional leaders to help our farmers by passing this important bill.”

Chad Franke
President
Rocky Mountain Farmers Union

True Transition: “Each oil and gas well represents a tremendous amount of risk and effort. American oil and gas workers have toiled and risked their lives to produce the energy that has made the modern American dream possible. But it's time to finish the job. There are thousands upon thousands of unplugged and undocumented wells across our nation spoiling farmland, contaminating freshwater drinking supplies, and posing real risks to American communities. With the Abandoned Well Remediation Research & Development Act we can get to work locating those dangers and putting Americans to work removing them.”

Megan Biven
Founder
True Transition

VitalEco: “Across the United States, there are millions of orphaned and abandoned oil and gas wells emitting substantial methane gas, a super pollutant that is 80 times more potent than CO₂ over the next 20 years. As the CEO of VitalEco, my company is committed to preventing methane emissions by supporting well remediation projects across the US. We have seen the impacts at a low-income, senior housing facility in Ohio, a nature conservancy in Pennsylvania, protected wetlands in Louisiana, and agricultural land in Montana. The impacts of methane pollution to human health, degradation of biodiversity in protected areas, groundwater contamination, and agriculture crop yields is well understood. Now is the time for increased action from all stakeholders so we can imagine a world where future generations can hike through forests teeming with life, stroll along pristine shorelines, play in crystal rivers, and grow up in communities that are resilient and empowered.”

Jan Belt
CEO
VitalEco

Western Environmental Law Center: “This bill represents a critical step in addressing an epidemic of abandoned oil and gas wells, polluting our public lands, climate, and communities. The oil and gas industry routinely evades their obligation to clean up after themselves, shifting the burden to properly plug and abandon defunct wells onto the taxpayers. As a result, countless wells have been sitting unplugged and spewing emissions for decades. This bill will enhance efforts to both locate abandoned wells and develop needed improvements in proper plugging and remediation.”

Kyle Tisdell
Climate & Energy Program Director, Senior Attorney
Western Environmental Law Center