

# RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS

DAVID PORTER, *CHAIRMAN*  
CHRISTI CRADDICK, *COMMISSIONER*  
RYAN SITTON, *COMMISSIONER*

**INTERNAL**  
OIL AND GAS DIVISION  
SANTOS GONZALES JR., P.E.,  
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, FIELD OPERATIONS

## MEMORANDUM

November 17, 2015

**MEMORANDUM TO:** Chairman David Porter  
Commissioner Christi Craddick  
Commissioner Ryan Sitton


**FROM:** Santos Gonzales, Jr., P.E.  
Assistant Director, Field Operations

**SUBJECT:** Field Operations Section  
Monthly Report of State-funded Well Plugging Activities  
October 2015, FY 2016

Attached is the monthly report titled "State-funded Well Plugging Activities" for the Field Operations Section of the Oil and Gas Division. This report contains the following:

1. Monthly and cumulative performance measure summaries of the state-funded well plugging activities of this Section.
2. Summary graphs of wells plugged, cost of wells plugged, number of salvage operations, and salvage proceeds.
3. A list of state-funded plugging contracts in excess of \$100,000 where the original encumbered amount has been exceeded by 10% or more. The contracts will be carried on this report until completed.

SG:th  
Attachments

  
Santos Gonzales, Jr., P.E.  
Assistant Director, Oil & Gas Division

cc: Lindil C. Fowler, Jr., Acting, Executive Director  
Wei Wang, Chief Financial Officer  
Lori Wrotenbery, Director, Oil & Gas Division  
David Cooney, Director, Office of General Counsel-Enforcement  
Paul Delaney, Internal Auditor  
Stacie Fowler, Director, Governmental Affairs  
Ramona Nye, Media Affairs  
Tina Beck, Analyst, Legislative Budget Board  
Nate Hickman, Policy Advisor, Office of the Governor  
District Directors (via email)

RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS  
Oil and Gas Division  
Field Operations Section  
Monthly State-Funded Plugging Activities  
October 2015

Outcome Measure: Percentage of Known Orphaned Wells Plugged with the Use of State Funds (State-Funded Plugging/Orphaned Wells).

October	0.30 %
Fiscal Year-to-date	0.33 %
Performance Measure Goal	6 %

Output Measure: Number of Orphaned Wells Plugged with the Use of State Funds.

October	30
Fiscal Year-to-date	63
Performance Measure Goal	875

Output Measure: Total Aggregate Plugging Depth of Wells Plugged with the Use of State Funds.

October	51,593
Fiscal Year-to-date	101,813
Performance Measure Goal	1,671,250

Efficiency Measure: Average Number of Days to complete a State-Funded Well Plugging.

	From Contract Award Date
October	65
Fiscal Year-to-date	49
Performance Measure Goal	75

Explanatory Measure: Number of Orphaned Wells Approved for Plugging with the Use of State Funds.

October	83
Fiscal Year-to-date	143
Performance Measure Goal	800

Explanatory Measure: Number of Known Orphaned Wells in Non-compliance with the Commission's Plugging Rule.

	Orphaned wells
October	9,930
Performance Measure Goal	9,000

Explanatory Measure: Number of Wells Plugged, by Operators, Without the Use of State Funds.

October	652
Fiscal Year-to-date	1,381
Performance Measure Goal	5,200

Explanatory measure: Percentage of Active Well Operators Who Have More Than 25% of Their Wells Inactive.

October	41%
Performance Measure Goal	42%

Explanatory measure: Numbered shut-in/inactive wells.

October	113,494
Performance Measure Goal	110,000

**RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS**  
**Oil Field Cleanup**

**Monthly State-Funded Plugging, Pollution Abatement and Salvage Activities**  
**Commissioners Report**  
**10/01/2015 to 10/31/2015**

**State-Funded Plugging Activities**

Number of wells approved for plugging this month	83
Estimated cost of approvals	\$ 1,312,300.00
Number of wells approved for this fiscal year	143
Number of approved wells remaining to plug	1016
Estimated cost to plug remaining approvals	\$ 26,806,903.59
Number of pluggings completed this month	30
Total cost to plug wells completed this month	\$ 2,632,819.59
Number of pluggings completed this fiscal year	63
Cost of pluggings completed this fiscal year	\$ 2,946,962.84

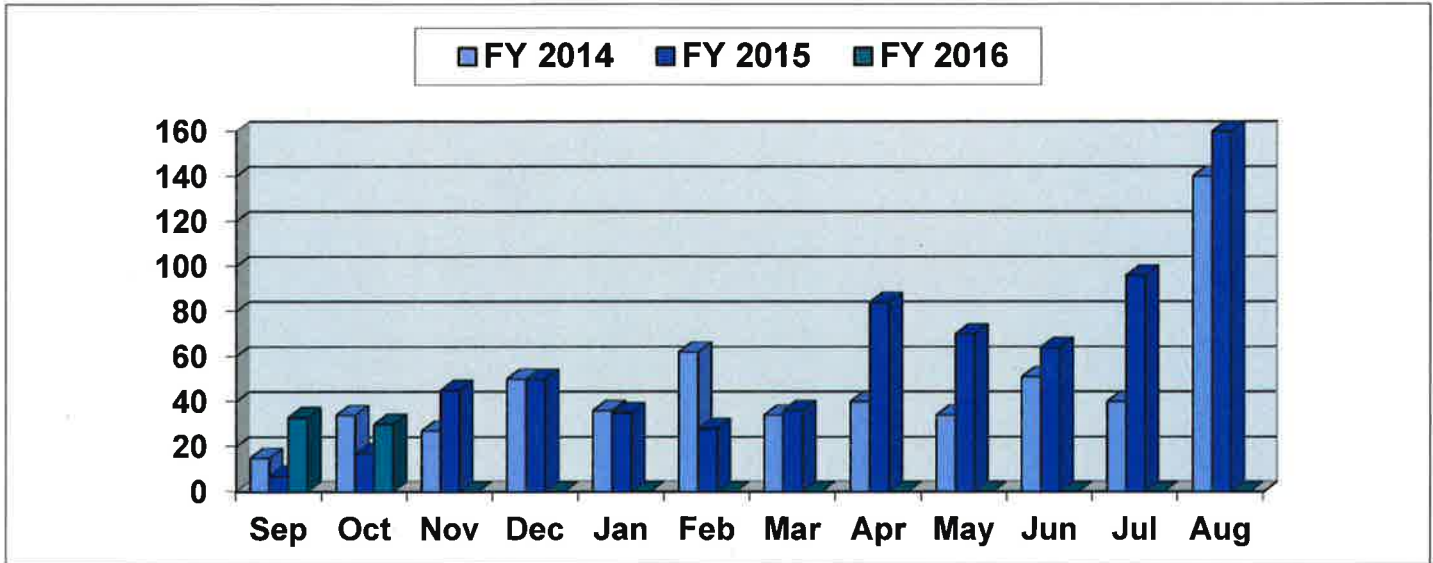
**Pollution Abatement Activities**

Number of pollution abatements approved this month	4
Estimated cost of approvals	\$ 9,250.00
Number of pollution abatements approved for this fiscal year	16
Number of pollution abatements remaining	49
Estimated cost to pollution abatements remaining	\$ 142,917.50
Number of pollution abatements completed this month	3
Total cost of pollution abatements completed this month	\$ 29,370.41
Number of pollution abatements completed this fiscal year	9
Cost of pollution abatements completed this fiscal year	\$ 34,376.27

**Salvage Activities**

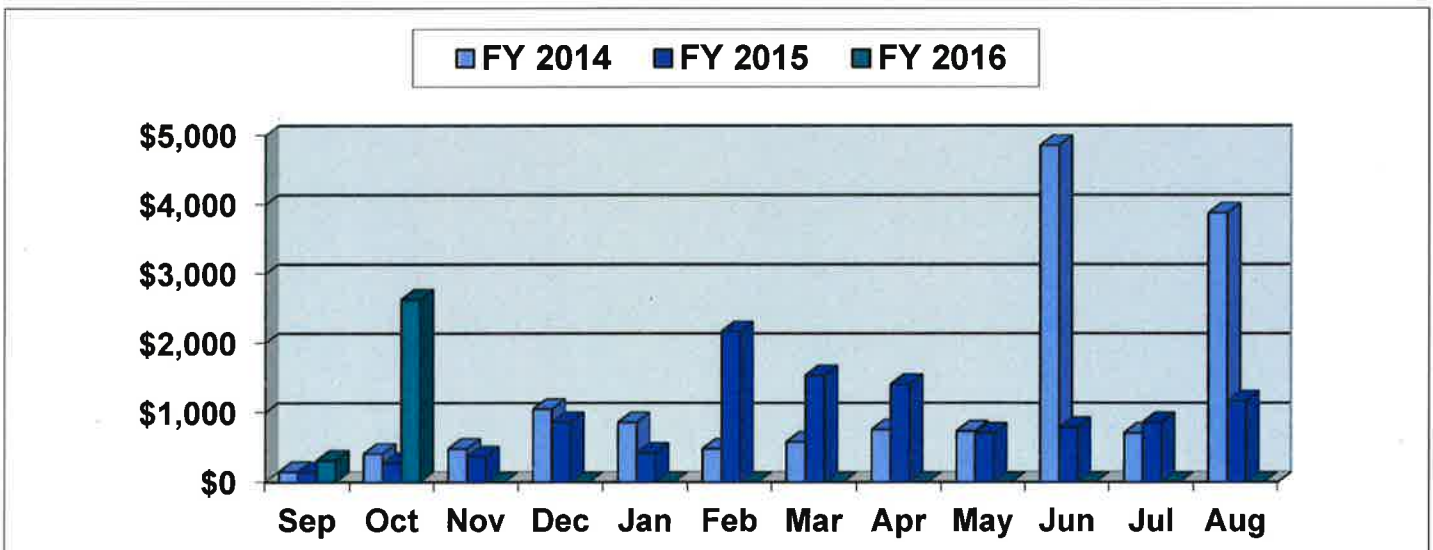
Number of salvage activities completed this month	25
Total proceeds received this month	\$ 59,681.68
Number of salvage activities completed this fiscal year	43
Total proceeds received this year	\$ 101,654.55

## State-funded Well Plugging Program Monthly Wells Plugged October 2015



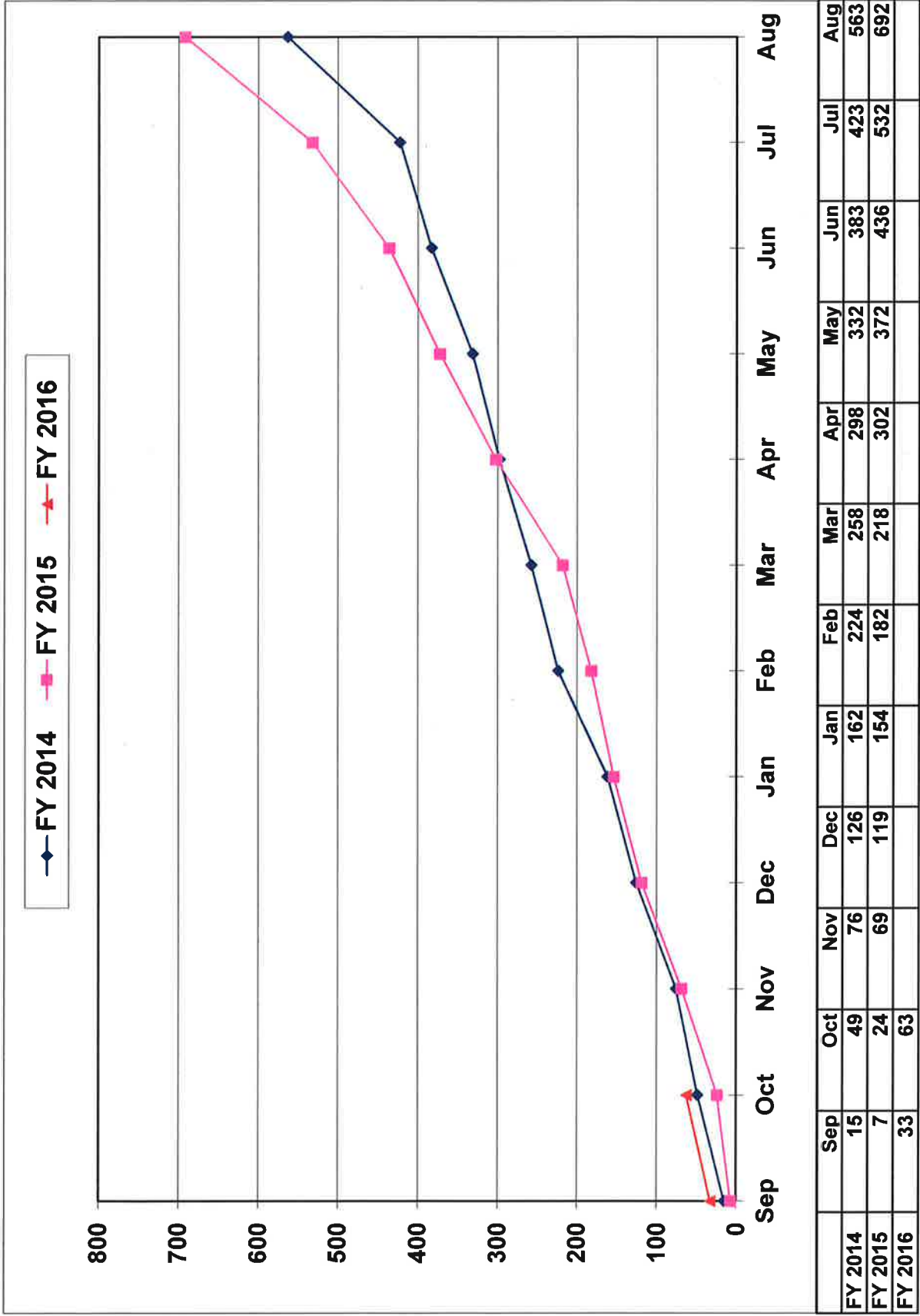
	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Tot
FY 2014	15	34	27	50	36	62	34	40	34	51	40	140	563
FY 2015	7	17	45	50	35	28	36	84	70	64	96	160	692
FY 2016	33	30	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	63

## State-funded Well Plugging Program Monthly Cost of Wells Plugged October 2015

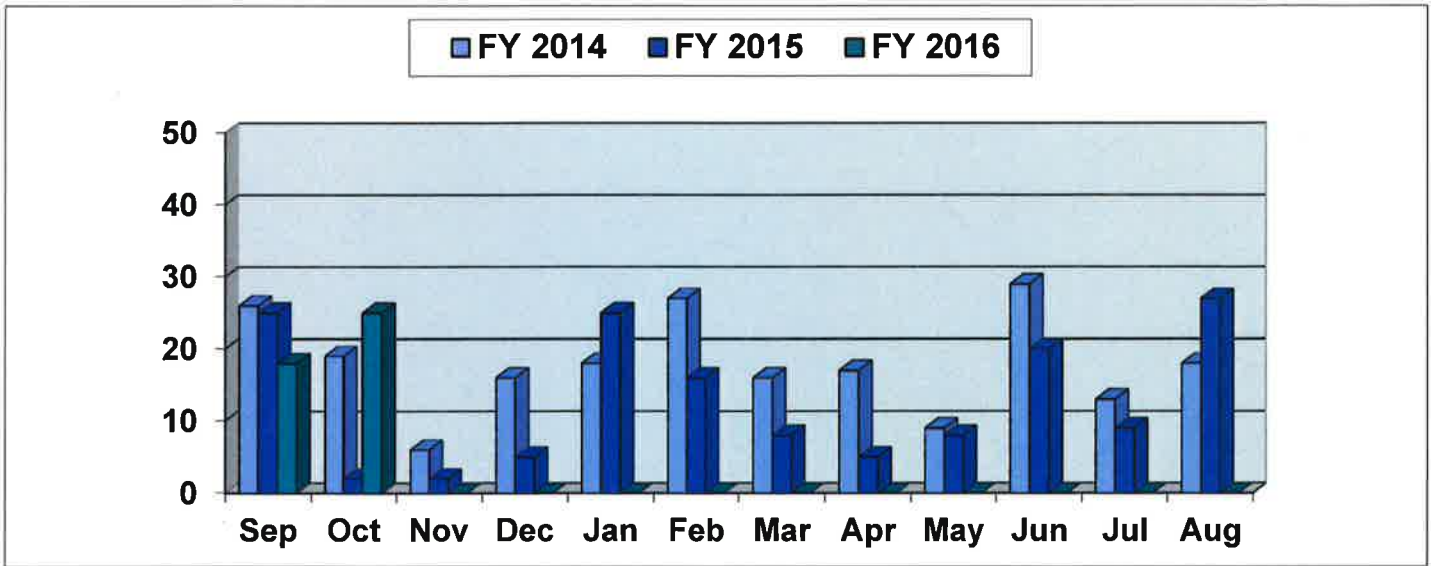


\$M	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Tot
FY 2014	\$151	\$412	\$483	\$1,052	\$860	\$481	\$581	\$758	\$735	\$4,856	\$710	\$3,880	\$14,959
FY 2015	\$146	\$277	\$374	\$866	\$422	\$2,169	\$1,538	\$1,411	\$709	\$789	\$860	\$1,170	\$10,731
FY 2016	\$314	\$2,633	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,947

# State-funded Well Plugging Program Cumulative Wells Plugged October 2015

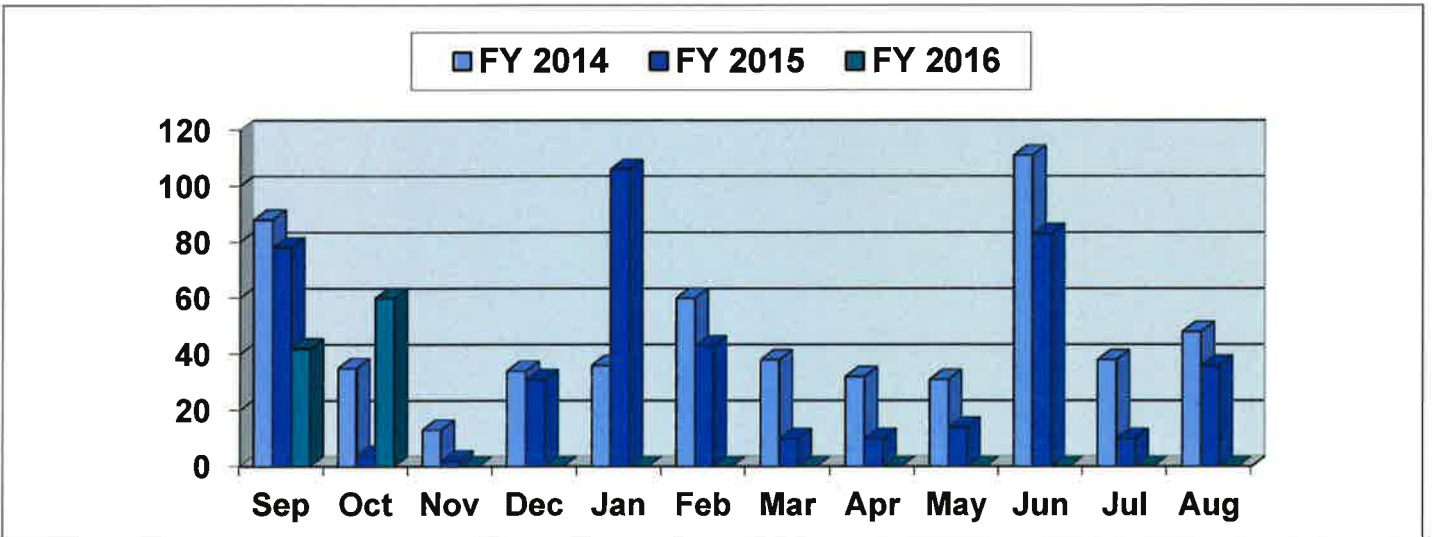


## State-funded Well Plugging Program Monthly Salvage Operations October 2015



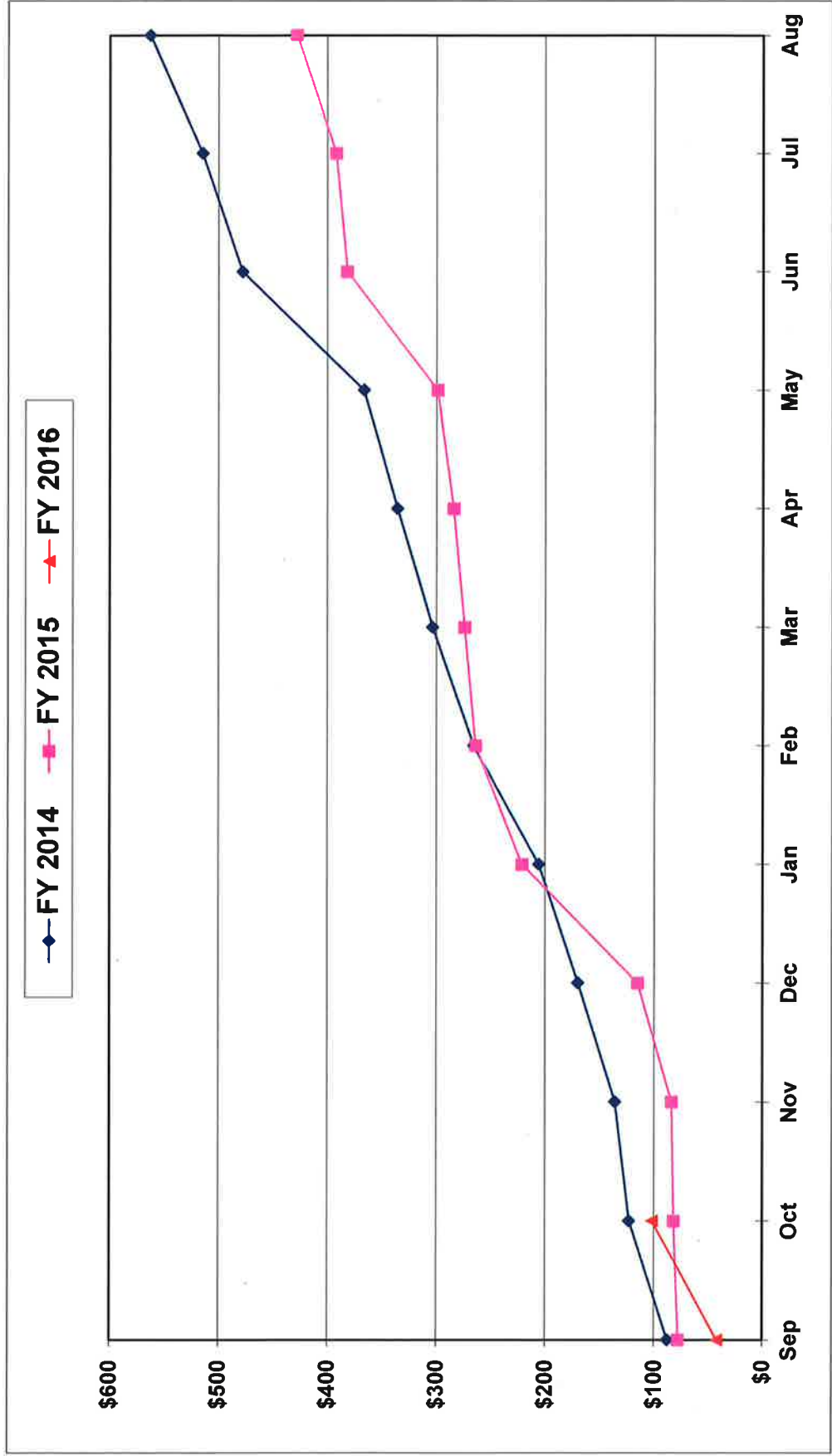
	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Tot
<b>FY 2014</b>	26	19	6	16	18	27	16	17	9	29	13	18	214
<b>FY 2015</b>	25	2	2	5	25	16	8	5	8	20	9	27	152
<b>FY 2016</b>	18	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	43

## State-funded Well Plugging Program Monthly Salvage Proceeds October 2015



\$M	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Tot
<b>FY 2014</b>	\$88	\$35	\$13	\$34	\$36	\$60	\$38	\$32	\$31	\$111	\$38	\$48	\$564
<b>FY 2015</b>	\$78	\$4	\$2	\$31	\$106	\$43	\$10	\$10	\$14	\$83	\$10	\$36	\$427
<b>FY 2016</b>	\$42	\$60	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$102

# State-funded Well Plugging Program Cumulative Salvage Proceeds October 2015



\$M	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
FY 2014	\$88	\$123	\$136	\$170	\$206	\$266	\$304	\$336	\$367	\$478	\$515	\$563
FY 2015	\$78	\$82	\$84	\$115	\$221	\$264	\$274	\$284	\$299	\$382	\$392	\$428
FY 2016	\$42	\$102										

**RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS**  
**Oil Field Cleanup**  
**Fiscal Year State-funded Plugging Summary**  
**10/31/2015**

Run Date: November 06, 2015

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Pluggings Approved</b>	<b>Pluggings Completed</b>	<b>Plugging Cost</b>
1984	421	177	\$ 1,112,197.81
1985	474	392	\$ 2,028,121.62
1986	533	714	\$ 2,583,271.00
1987	709	703	\$ 2,106,546.67
1988	830	627	\$ 2,162,255.30
1989	844	578	\$ 2,028,764.38
1990	1004	432	\$ 1,993,128.18
1991	667	455	\$ 2,157,121.78
1992	2412	1324	\$ 5,692,878.50
1993	1171	1404	\$ 6,680,547.97
1994	1106	1325	\$ 6,003,267.26
1995	1381	1364	\$ 6,110,031.51
1996	1286	1366	\$ 5,259,382.52
1997	2156	1577	\$ 7,077,979.66
1998	1854	1604	\$ 8,456,131.53
1999	1318	1126	\$ 4,481,066.50
2000	1693	1335	\$ 5,134,842.14
2001	1612	1417	\$ 6,686,357.01
2002	1659	1464	\$ 8,011,659.30
2003	1469	1635	\$ 7,211,207.33
2004	1701	1525	\$ 7,398,237.94
2005	2168	1710	\$ 11,360,931.62
2006	1815	1824	\$ 10,736,521.32
2007	1707	1536	\$ 18,537,524.65
2008	1826	1261	\$ 14,736,187.15
2009	1557	1460	\$ 16,700,337.18
2010	1216	1182	\$ 10,504,966.23
2011	977	802	\$ 9,233,659.43
2012	761	764	\$ 12,309,476.92
2013	841	778	\$ 20,893,009.98
2014	626	563	\$ 14,959,243.65
2015	735	692	\$ 10,731,174.12
2016	143	63	\$ 2,946,962.84
<b>Totals</b>	<b>40672</b>	<b>35179</b>	<b>\$ 254,024,991.00</b>



**RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS**  
**Oil Field Cleanup**  
**Fiscal Year Summary for Pollution Abatements**  
**10/31/2015**

Run Date: November 06, 2015

Fiscal Year	PAs Approved	PAs Completed	PAs Cost
1984			
1985	21	14	\$ 3,563.32
1986	22	25	\$ 34,817.01
1987	42	31	\$ 25,702.15
1988	46	37	\$ 17,519.39
1989	95	72	\$ 23,521.25
1990	78	65	\$ 28,222.43
1991	146	124	\$ 72,631.81
1992	129	127	\$ 71,268.54
1993	160	124	\$ 46,586.49
1994	97	84	\$ 43,771.43
1995	86	68	\$ 29,567.34
1996	124	100	\$ 47,895.29
1997	137	73	\$ 38,268.97
1998	174	148	\$ 92,235.78
1999	136	157	\$ 70,854.70
2000	151	79	\$ 359,441.08
2001	115	61	\$ 116,091.54
2002	125	85	\$ 146,095.87
2003	117	223	\$ 161,975.21
2004	125	170	\$ 135,450.45
2005	93	121	\$ 415,879.04
2006	135	75	\$ 72,209.86
2007	83	54	\$ 546,481.92
2008	140	123	\$ 224,762.50
2009	92	58	\$ 147,553.92
2010	103	166	\$ 233,933.60
2011	62	58	\$ 118,820.15
2012	53	42	\$ 456,384.20
2013	56	56	\$ 405,929.13
2014	47	42	\$ 150,412.10
2015	54	82	\$ 227,302.24
2016	14	9	\$ 34,376.27
<b>Totals</b>	<b>3058</b>	<b>2753</b>	<b>\$ 4,599,524.98</b>

Oil and Gas Division  
 Field Operations Section  
 State-Funded Plugging  
 Contracts Exceeding \$100,000  
 Original Encumbered Amount Exceeded by 10% or More  
 October 2015, FY 16

District	Requisition #	Contractor	Original Encumbrance	Current Encumbrance	\$ Increase	% Increase	Remarks
1/2	455-15-0703	Seeker	\$196,415.00	\$286,415.00	\$90,000.00	45.82%	Added Ten (10) wells to contract.
	455-				\$0.00	#DIV/0!	
	455-				\$0.00	#DIV/0!	
3	455-15-0878	ALD Services	\$83,116.00	\$231,616.00	\$148,500.00	178.67%	Added three (3) wells, downhole problems on two (2).
	455-				\$0.00	#DIV/0!	
	455-				\$0.00	#DIV/0!	
	455-				\$0.00	#DIV/0!	
	455-				\$0.00	#DIV/0!	
	455-				\$0.00	#DIV/0!	
4	455-15-0951	Newman Operating Company	\$224,875.00	\$580,973.39	\$356,098.39	158.35%	Add thirteen wells, poor WH conditions and downhole problems.
	455-15-1094	Newman Operating Company	\$150,585.00	\$225,000.00	\$74,415.00	49.42%	Emergency Plugging Operations.
	455-15-1143	Stellar Well Control	\$150,000.00	\$1,269,582.49	\$1,119,582.49	746.39%	Poor WH conditions and downhole problems.
5/6	455-				\$0.00	#DIV/0!	
	455-				\$0.00	#DIV/0!	
	455-				\$0.00	#DIV/0!	
	455-				\$0.00	#DIV/0!	
	455-				\$0.00	#DIV/0!	
7B	455-15-0882	Quail Well Service, Inc.	\$309,645.00	\$460,000.00	\$150,355.00	48.56%	Poor WH conditions and downhole problems.
	455-				\$0.00	#DIV/0!	
	455-				\$0.00	#DIV/0!	
	455-				\$0.00	#DIV/0!	
	455-				\$0.00	#DIV/0!	
7C	455-				\$0.00	#DIV/0!	
	455-				\$0.00	#DIV/0!	
	455-				\$0.00	#DIV/0!	
	455-				\$0.00	#DIV/0!	
	455-				\$0.00	#DIV/0!	
8/8A	455-				\$0.00	#DIV/0!	
	455-				\$0.00	#DIV/0!	
	455-				\$0.00	#DIV/0!	
	455-				\$0.00	#DIV/0!	
	455-				\$0.00	#DIV/0!	
9	455-				\$0.00	#DIV/0!	
	455-				\$0.00	#DIV/0!	
	455-				\$0.00	#DIV/0!	
	455-				\$0.00	#DIV/0!	
	455-				\$0.00	#DIV/0!	
10	455-				\$0.00	#DIV/0!	
	455-				\$0.00	#DIV/0!	
	455-				\$0.00	#DIV/0!	
	455-				\$0.00	#DIV/0!	
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