

# RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS

CHRISTI CRADDICK, *CHAIRMAN*  
RYAN SITTON, *COMMISSIONER*  
WAYNE CHRISTIAN, *COMMISSIONER*

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

## MEMORANDUM

March 8, 2017

**MEMORANDUM TO:** Chairman Christi Craddick  
Commissioner Ryan Sitton  
Commissioner Wayne Christian

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

**SUBJECT:** Field Operations Section  
Monthly Report of State-funded Well Plugging Activities  
February 2017, FY 2017

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: Kimberly Corley, 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  
Craig Bean, 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  
February 2017

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

February	0.75%
Fiscal Year-to-date	2.57%
Performance Measure Goal	6 %

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

February	65
Fiscal Year-to-date	223
Performance Measure Goal	875

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

February	86,851
Fiscal Year-to-date	433,114
Performance Measure Goal	1,671,250

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

	From Contract Award Date
February	81
Fiscal Year-to-date	54
Performance Measure Goal	75

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

February	134
Fiscal Year-to-date	457
Performance Measure Goal	800

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

	Orphaned wells
February	8,662
Performance Measure Goal	9,000

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

February	1,061
Fiscal Year-to-date	4,594
Performance Measure Goal	5,200

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

February	47.4%
Performance Measure Goal	42%

Explanatory measure: Numbered shut-in/inactive wells.

February	131,134
Performance Measure Goal	110,000

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

**Monthly State-Funded Plugging, Pollution Abatement and Salvage Activities**  
**Commissioners Report**  
**02/01/2017 to 02/28/2017**

**State-Funded Plugging Activities**

Number of wells approved for plugging this month	134
Estimated cost of approvals	\$ 1,567,605.00
Number of wells approved for this fiscal year	457
Number of approved wells remaining to plug	1348
Estimated cost to plug remaining approvals	\$ 29,795,001.09
Number of pluggings completed this month	65
Total cost to plug wells completed this month	\$ 609,341.57
Number of pluggings completed this fiscal year	223
Cost of pluggings completed this fiscal year	\$ 2,417,497.04

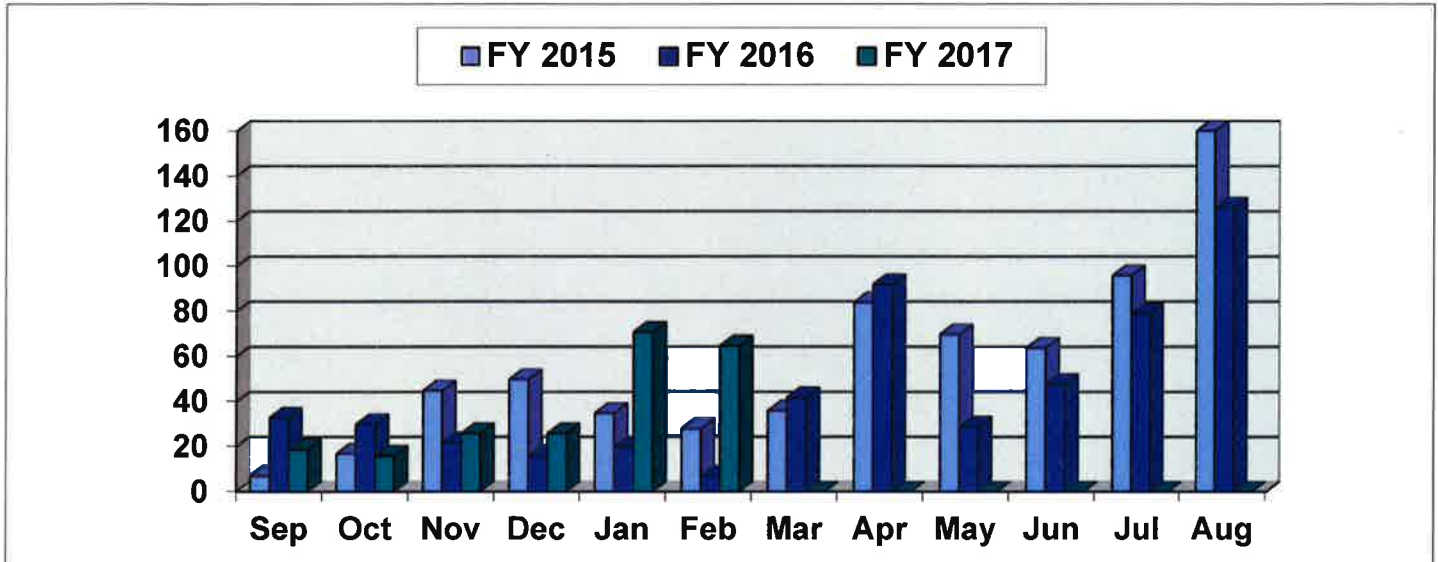
**Pollution Abatement Activities**

Number of pollution abatements approved this month	6
Estimated cost of approvals	\$ 38,100.00
Number of pollution abatements approved for this fiscal year	31
Number of pollution abatements remaining	57
Estimated cost to pollution abatements remaining	\$ 165,580.00
Number of pollution abatements completed this month	4
Total cost of pollution abatements completed this month	\$ 6,810.80
Number of pollution abatements completed this fiscal year	17
Cost of pollution abatements completed this fiscal year	\$ 217,998.19

**Salvage Activities**

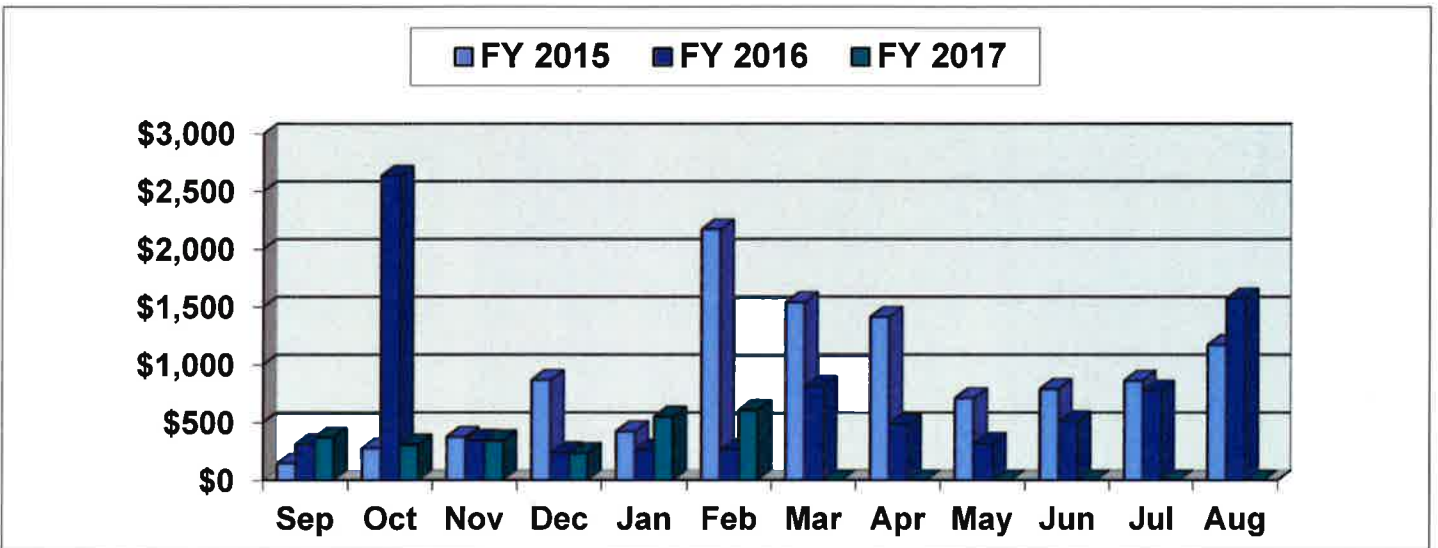
Number of salvage activities completed this month	9
Total proceeds received this month	\$ 22,352.65
Number of salvage activities completed this fiscal year	57
Total proceeds received this year	\$ 85,537.93

## State-funded Well Plugging Program Monthly Wells Plugged February 2017



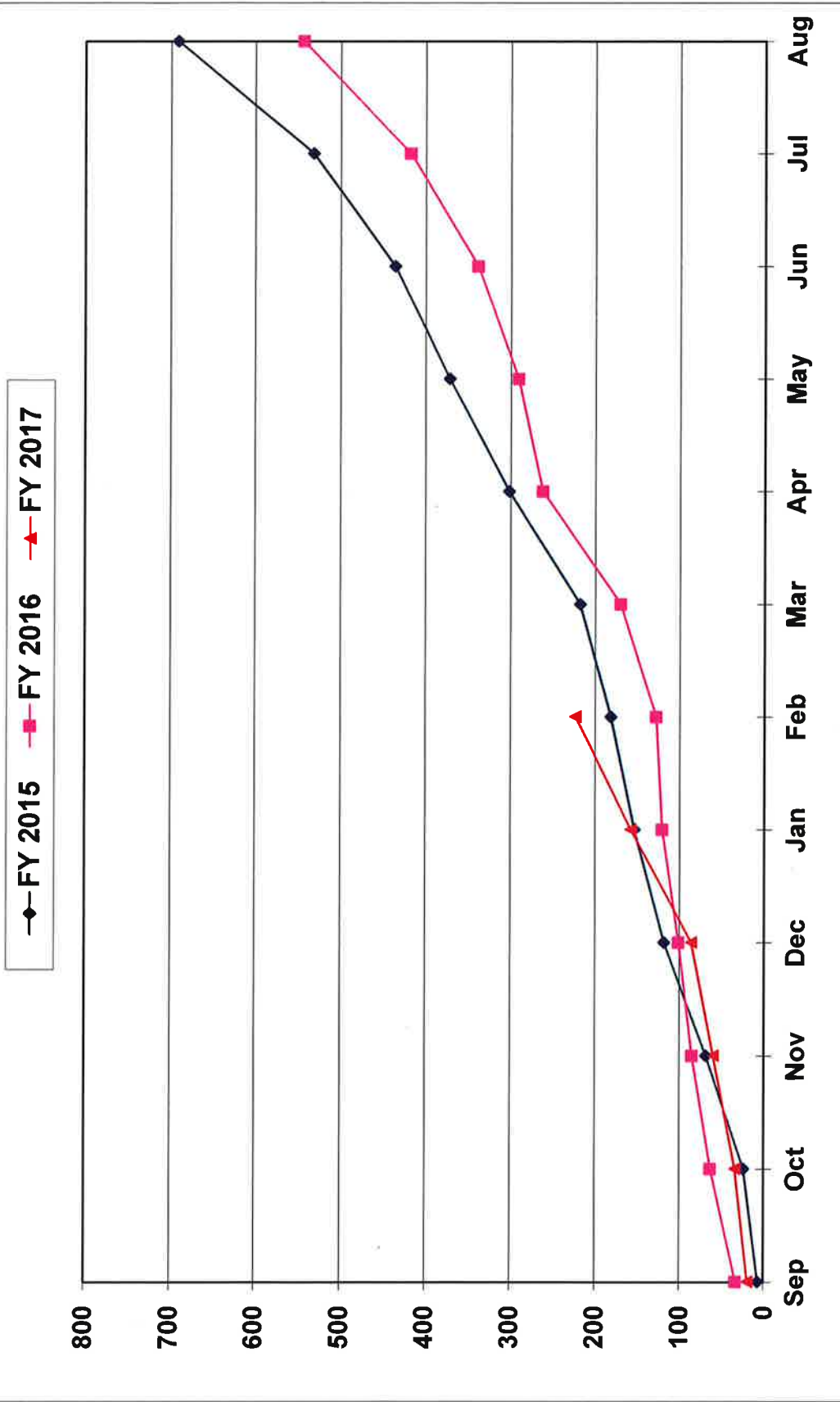
	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Tot
FY 2015	7	17	45	50	35	28	36	84	70	64	96	160	692
FY 2016	33	30	22	16	20	7	42	92	29	48	79	126	544
FY 2017	19	16	26	26	71	65	0	0	0	0	0	0	223

## State-funded Well Plugging Program Monthly Cost of Wells Plugged February 2017



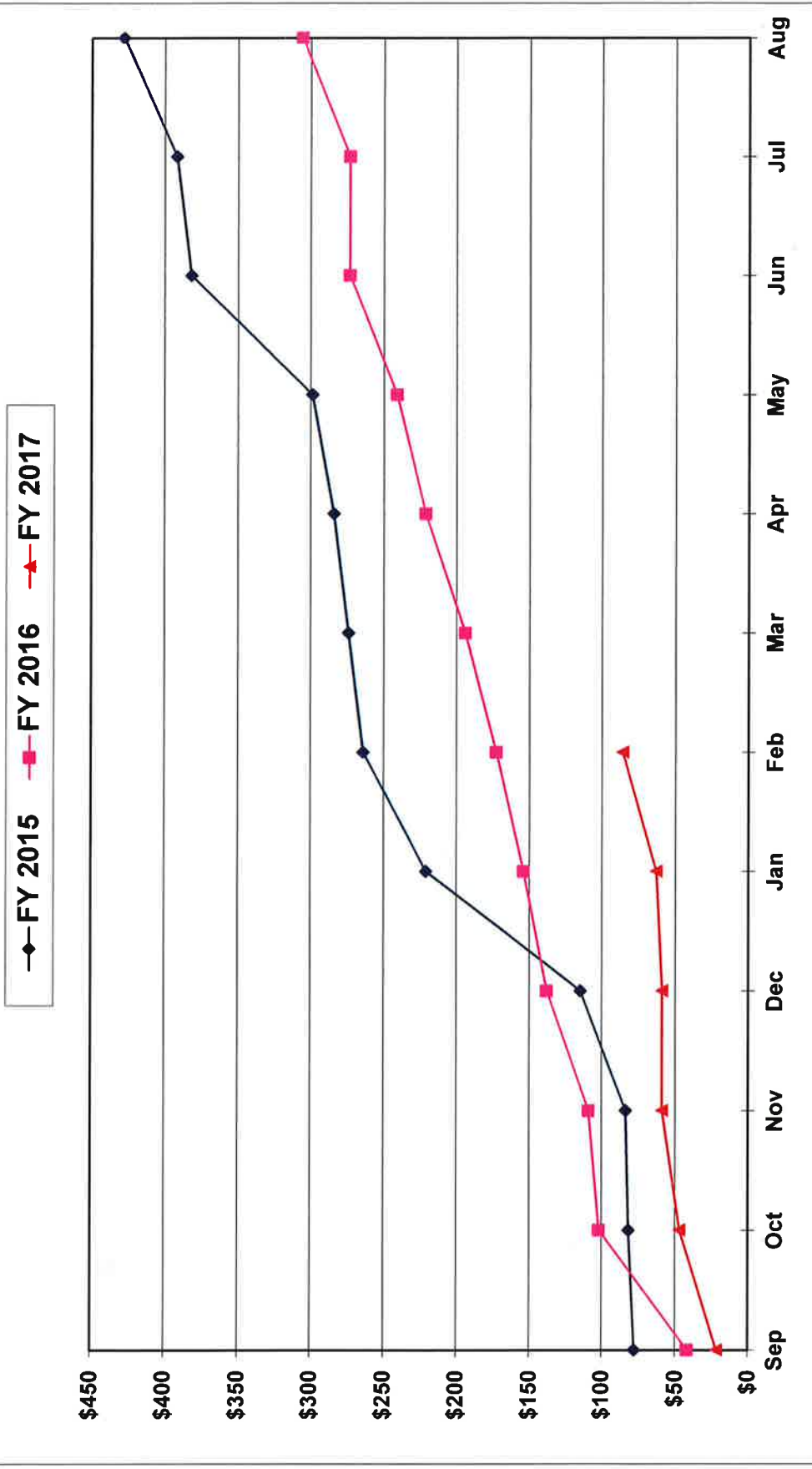
\$M	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Tot
FY 2015	\$146	\$277	\$374	\$866	\$422	\$2,169	\$1,538	\$1,411	\$709	\$789	\$860	\$1,170	\$10,731
FY 2016	\$314	\$2,633	\$348	\$240	\$264	\$266	\$814	\$488	\$322	\$511	\$775	\$1,571	\$8,546
FY 2017	\$372	\$308	\$344	\$235	\$550	\$609	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,418

# State-funded Well Plugging Program Cumulative Wells Plugged February 2017



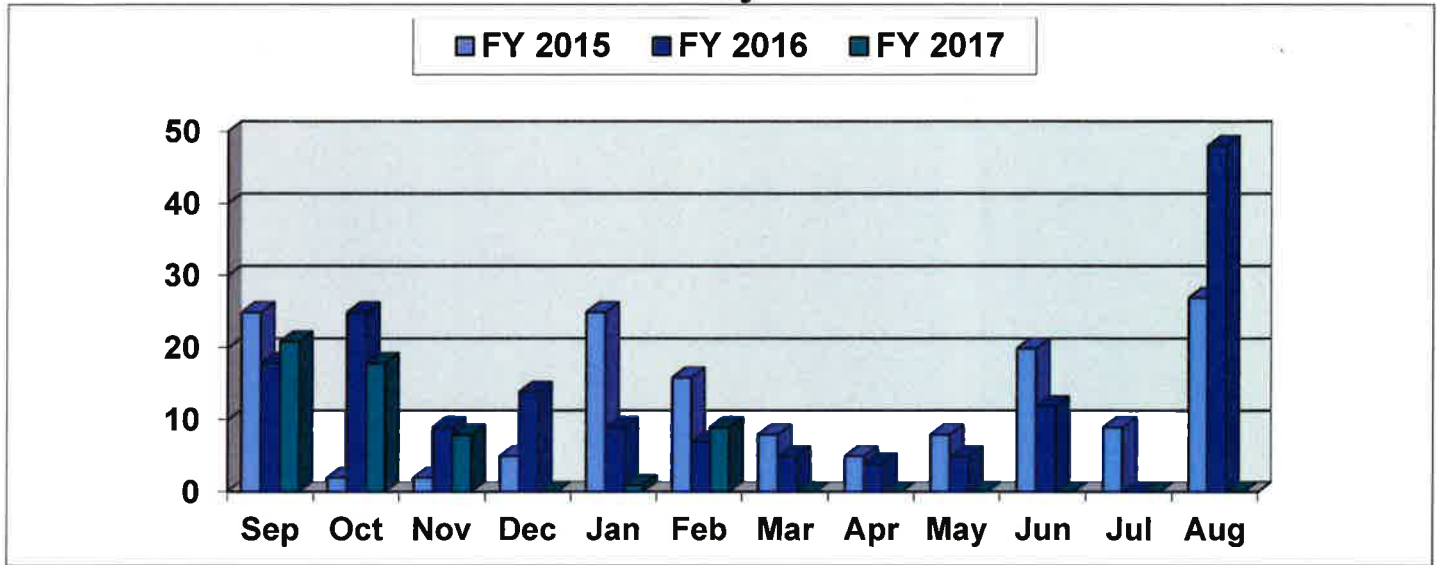
	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
FY 2015	7	24	69	119	154	182	218	302	372	436	532	692
FY 2016	33	63	85	101	121	128	170	262	291	339	418	544
FY 2017	19	34	60	86	158	223						

# State-funded Well Plugging Program Cumulative Salvage Proceeds February 2017



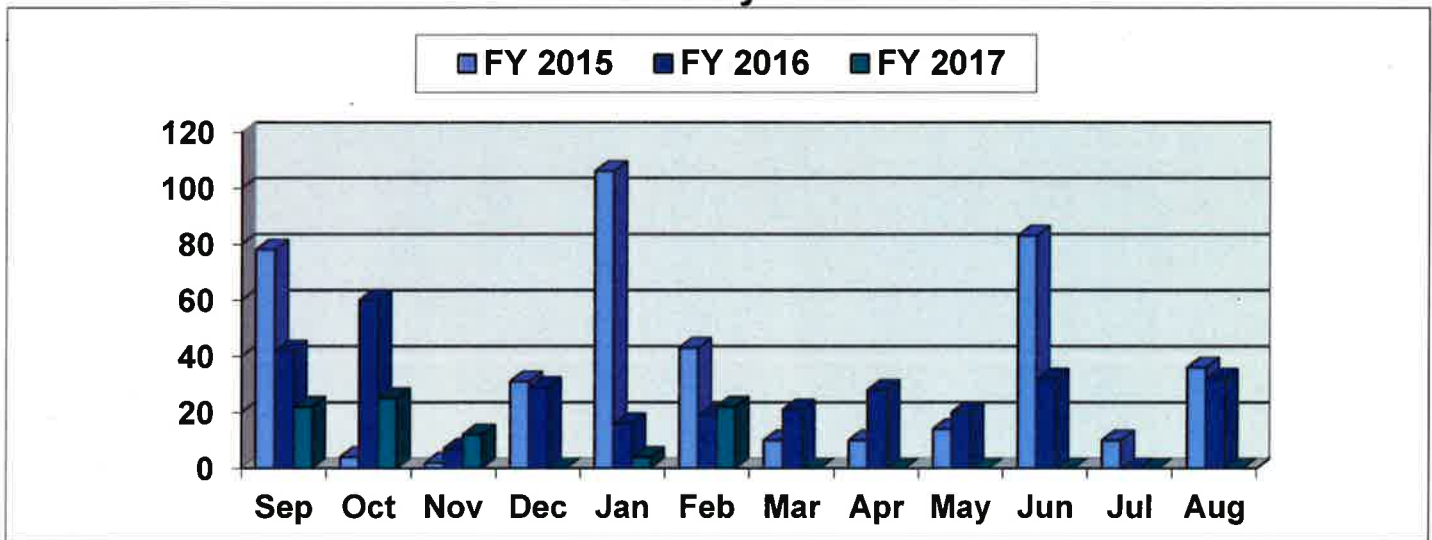
\$M	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
FY 2015	\$78	\$82	\$84	\$115	\$221	\$264	\$274	\$284	\$299	\$382	\$392	\$428
FY 2016	\$42	\$102	\$109	\$138	\$154	\$173	\$194	\$221	\$241	\$273	\$273	\$306
FY 2017	\$22	\$47	\$59	\$59	\$63	\$86						

**State-funded Well Plugging Program  
Monthly Salvage Operations  
February 2017**



	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Tot
FY 2015	25	2	2	5	25	16	8	5	8	20	9	27	152
FY 2016	18	25	9	14	9	7	5	4	5	12	0	48	156
FY 2017	21	18	8	0	1	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	57

**State-funded Well Plugging Program  
Monthly Salvage Proceeds  
February 2017**



\$M	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Tot
FY 2015	\$78	\$4	\$2	\$31	\$106	\$43	\$10	\$10	\$14	\$83	\$10	\$36	\$427
FY 2016	\$42	\$60	\$7	\$29	\$16	\$19	\$21	\$28	\$20	\$32	\$0	\$32	\$306
FY 2017	\$22	\$25	\$12	\$0	\$4	\$22	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$85

**RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS**  
**Oil Field Cleanup**  
**Fiscal Year State-funded Plugging Summary**  
**02/28/2017**

Run Date: March 01, 2017

<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	\$ 14,737,537.15
2009	1557	1460	\$ 16,700,337.18
2010	1216	1182	\$ 10,504,966.23
2011	974	802	\$ 9,233,659.43
2012	761	766	\$ 12,427,517.08
2013	840	780	\$ 21,024,684.98
2014	626	564	\$ 15,069,502.11
2015	736	692	\$ 10,731,174.12
2016	811	544	\$ 8,546,936.52
2017	457	223	\$ 2,417,497.04
<b>Totals</b>	<b>41794</b>	<b>35888</b>	<b>\$ 262,403,785.34</b>



**RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS**  
**Oil Field Cleanup**  
**Fiscal Year Summary for Pollution Abatements**  
**02/28/2017**

Run Date: March 01, 2017

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>PAs Approved</b>	<b>PAs Completed</b>	<b>PAs Cost</b>
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	167	\$ 234,020.62
2011	62	59	\$ 119,330.15
2012	54	43	\$ 456,770.84
2013	56	57	\$ 407,575.65
2014	47	42	\$ 150,412.10
2015	54	82	\$ 227,302.24
2016	43	39	\$ 82,313.69
2017	29	17	\$ 217,998.19
<b>Totals</b>	<b>3117</b>	<b>2804</b>	<b>\$ 4,868,090.77</b>

Oil and Gas Division  
 Field Operations Section  
 State-Funded Plugging  
 Contracts Exceeding \$100,000  
 Original Encumbered Amount Exceeded by 10% or More  
 February 2017, FY 17

District	Requisition #	Contractor	Original Encumbrance	Current Encumbrance	\$ Increase	% Increase	Remarks
1/2	455-16-0908	Newman Operating Company	\$112,340.00	\$360,340.00	\$40,000.00	220.76%	Increase contract value to, downhole problems encountered.
	455-				\$0.00	#DIV/0!	
3	455-				\$0.00	#DIV/0!	
	455-16-0163	Delta Seaboard	\$228,522.00	\$456,522.00	\$228,000.00	99.77%	Add ten (10) wells to existing contract.
4	455-				\$0.00	#DIV/0!	
	455-16-1004	Newman Operating Company	\$200,885.00	\$644,000.00	\$100,000.00	220.58%	Increase contract value to, downhole problems encountered.
5/6	455-				\$0.00	#DIV/0!	
	455-16-0906	Topcat Well Service	\$108,896.00	\$528,096.00	\$50,000.00	384.95%	Add one (1) well to existing contract.
7B	455-16-0050	Topcat Well Service	\$198,398.00	\$368,398.00	\$10,000.00	85.69%	Increase contract value to, downhole problems encountered.
	455-				\$0.00	#DIV/0!	
7C	455-16-0903	Mash Oilfield Services	\$84,320.00	\$176,320.00	\$92,000.00	109.11%	Adding eight (8) wells to the existing contract.
	455-16-8010	2W Petroleum	\$30,000.00	\$110,000.00	\$110,000.00	266.67%	Emergency Well Plug in Dist 7B
8/8A	455-16-1028	Hay Creek Investments	\$99,310.00	\$154,310.00	\$55,000.00	55.38%	Adding eleven (11) wells to existing contract.
	455-16-0771	Quail Well Service, Inc.	\$216,620.00	\$287,620.00	\$71,000.00	32.78%	Add four (4) wells to contract.
9	455-				\$0.00	#DIV/0!	
	455-				\$0.00	#DIV/0!	
10	455-				\$0.00	#DIV/0!	
	455-17-0289	SPH Development	\$71,225.00	\$347,925.00	\$119,700.00	388.49%	Add thirty-three wells to existing contract.
10	455-16-0911	Moore Energy	\$125,062.00	\$507,762.00	\$112,700.00	306.01%	Add Twenty-one (21) to existing contract.
	455-				\$0.00	#DIV/0!	
	455-				\$0.00	#DIV/0!	