

State Oil and Gas Board



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Board Attorney

July 15, 2026

RE: ATTENTION POTENTIAL ORPHANED WELL PLUGGING AND REMEDICATION CONTRACTORS

Dear Sirs,

Enclosed is a copy of the public notice that will be published in the Clarion-Ledger newspaper on Wednesday, July 15, 2026 and again on Wednesday, July 22, 2026 calling for a bid proposal to plug, remediate, and reclaim nine (9) orphaned wells in Adams and Walthall County, Mississippi (IFB RFx No. 3160008150). Also enclosed is the Invitation for Bids for your use in preparing your bid response. If you have any questions, please contact me at the above address, or by telephone number at (601) 576-4925 or by e-mail at mwelch@ogb.state.ms.us.

The deadline for submitting a bid is 4:00 p.m. on Monday, August 24, 2026. Bids must be submitted to the Mississippi Oil and Gas Board ("MSOGB") at 500 Greymont Avenue, Suite E, Jackson, Mississippi 39202. A physical bid may be mailed or delivered in a sealed envelope or submitted by electronic mail. Any request for additional information must be made in writing to Morris Welch, Compliance Inspector Team Lead, at the above address, telephone number, or e-mail address.

Each prospective Contractor is required to attend a Pre-Bid Project Site Inspection in order to fully ascertain and properly characterize the work to be completed on each project site included in IFB RFx No. 3160008150. This Pre-Bid Project Site Inspection will be conducted on **Thursday, July 30 and Friday, July 31, 2026**. If circumstances prohibit a prospective bidder from attending the Pre-Bid Project Site Inspection on these dates, said prospective bidder should contact Morris Welch, MSOGB Field Director, at the telephone number or e-mail address provided above in order to schedule an alternative date.

Contractors are expected to be aware of and fully understand the full scope of work to be performed on each project site, notwithstanding unknown and unforeseen downhole well issues that may arise from time to time which are unknown or unforeseen to both the MSOGB and the Contractor.

IMPORTANT

Bid proposals require an absolute turnkey bid. A change order may be allowed with respect to technical procedures or unforeseen and significant downhole problems involving the plugging of an orphaned well; however, said change order must be agreed upon in writing in advance of the commencement of work at a particular well site. Any adjustment in the contract price may be made by agreement on a fixed price adjustment before commencement of the additional performance, by Time and Materials (T&M) rates specified in the contract, or by the costs attributable to the event or situation rendering a price adjustment necessary.

Contractor must submit to the MSOGB an individual plugging and/or remediation plan, including all pertinent written procedures, for each well referenced in IFB RFx No. 3160008150 along with the Contractor's bid amount for each well and a total amount for all of the work to be performed pursuant to IFB RFx No. 3160008150.

Contractor's plugging and remediation plan for each well must be approved by the MSOGB before any work begins pursuant to IFB RFx No. 3160008150. Contractor must comply with all applicable Federal and State statutes, rules and regulations, including those regarding the filing of forms.

Bid Specifications now contain the requirement that the Contractor remove and dispose of all liquids contained in the production vessels and equipment associated with each well that is being plugged. Pumping these fluids back into the well prior to plugging is an acceptable option, so long as said fluids are pumped into the same formation from which they were generated. Alternatively, these fluids may be mixed with mud and placed in between the cement plugs below the base of the USDW, so long as the well has demonstrated mechanical integrity. This alternative option only applies to oil and gas wells.

Contractors shall also remove and dispose of all liquids from vessels (stock tanks, separators, heater treaters, etc.) associated with the well. Contractors shall restore the location by filling and leveling the hole dug to cut casings, removing all equipment from the well site that was associated with the well operation (per Statewide Rule 28), and leveling/smoothing all containment berms and firewalls.

On all wells to be plugged, when tubing is to be pulled from the well, all proper and necessary precautions shall be taken for keeping the well under control including the use of blowout preventers (BOPs) and auxiliary equipment. Testing of BOPs shall be done according to Testing Requirements of Statewide Rule 13 (Blowout Preventers and Well Control). It is the sole responsibility of the Contractor to maintain control of the well at all times.

Plugging specifications for a production well now require a 100 foot cement plug at the base of the USDW, inside the casing only, and verification of the plug by tagging. A 200 foot plug may be set in lieu of tagging. However, all plugging operations will be in strict compliance with the all applicable local, State, and/or Federal regulations governing same.

With respect to a plugging operation of an orphan well where it is reasonably expected that Hydrogen Sulfide (H₂S) may be encountered, plugging operations shall be completed in accordance with Statewide Rule 66 (Operations Involving Hydrogen Sulfide). If H₂S is reasonably expected to be encountered with respect to a particular plugging operation, the Contractor shall be required to engage a well-qualified company or individual specializing in H₂S plugging operations where H₂S concentrations are at or above 100 ppm.

Statewide Rule 28 requires the removal of concrete bases, unless the landowner agrees in writing to allow the concrete bases to remain on the property as is. Contractor shall provide a copy of said written agreement to the MSOGB.

Sincerely,

Morris Welch
Compliance Inspector Team Lead