

# RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS

JIM WRIGHT, *CHAIRMAN*  
CHRISTI CRADDICK, *COMMISSIONER*  
WAYNE CHRISTIAN, *COMMISSIONER*

**INTERNAL**  
OIL AND GAS DIVISION  
DAVID LINDLEY  
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, FIELD OPERATIONS

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## MEMORANDUM

January 14, 2025

**MEMORANDUM TO:** Chairman Jim Wright  
Commissioner Christi Craddick  
Commissioner Wayne Christian

**FROM:** David Lindley  
Assistant Director, Oil and Gas Division  
Field Operations

**SUBJECT:** Field Operations Section  
Monthly Report of State Managed Well Plugging Activities  
December 2025, FY 2026

Attached is the monthly report titled “State Managed 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 managed well plugging activities of this Section.
2. Summary graphs of wells plugged, cost of wells plugged, number of salvage operations, and salvage proceeds.

The information contained in this report includes only those wells that have been physically plugged, invoiced by the plugging contractor, and approved for payment by Field Operations. Plugging operations are tracked daily to monitor the progress in meeting the FY 2026 workplan goal of plugging 1,700 wells. As of December 31, 2025, a total of 685 wells have been physically plugged, though not all of them have yet been invoiced and approved for payment.

KCW  
Attachments

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David Lindley  
Assistant Director, Oil and Gas Division  
Field Operations

cc: (via email)  
Wei Wang, Executive Director  
Danny Sorrells, Director, Oil & Gas Division  
Megan Neal, Director, Office of General Counsel-Enforcement  
Paul Delaney, Internal Auditor  
Christian Goff, Director, Communications  
Matt Cope, Director, Government Relations  
Jacquelyn Hill, Office of the Governor  
District Directors

RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS  
Oil and Gas Division  
Field Operations Section  
Monthly State Managed Plugging Activities  
December 2025

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

December	0.97 %
Fiscal Year-to-date	4.03 %
Performance Measure Goal	17.5 %

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

December	107
Fiscal Year-to-date	447
Performance Measure Goal	1,700

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

December	371,059
Fiscal Year-to-date	1,419,488
Performance Measure Goal	3,500,000

Efficiency Measure: Average Number of Days to complete a State Managed Well Plugging. From Contract Award Date

December	69
Fiscal Year-to-date	45.5
Performance Measure Goal	50

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

December	185
Fiscal Year-to-date	383
Performance Measure Goal	2,000

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

December	11,124
Performance Measure Goal	8,500

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

December	616
Fiscal Year-to-date	2,419
Performance Measure Goal	7,000

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

December	45.0 %
Performance Measure Goal	47.0 %

Explanatory measure: Numbered shut-in/inactive wells.

December	155,462
Performance Measure Goal	149,000

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

**Monthly State-Funded Plugging, Pollution Abatement and Salvage Activities**  
**Commissioners Report**  
**12/01/2025 to 12/31/2025**

**State-Funded Plugging Activities**

Number of wells approved for plugging this month	185
Estimated cost of approvals	\$ 19,729,265.00
Number of wells approved for this fiscal year	383
Number of approved wells remaining to plug	3773
Estimated cost to plug remaining approvals	\$ 197,188,786.84
Number of pluggings completed this month	107
Total cost to plug wells completed this month	\$ 5,104,079.45
Number of pluggings completed this fiscal year	447
Cost of pluggings completed this fiscal year	\$ 20,994,639.58

**Pollution Abatement Activities**

Number of pollution abatements approved this month	1
Estimated cost of approvals	\$ 2,000.00
Number of pollution abatements approved for this fiscal year	22
Number of pollution abatements remaining	100
Estimated cost to pollution abatements remaining	\$ 887,160.00
Number of pollution abatements completed this month	0
Total cost of pollution abatements completed this month	\$ 0.00
Number of pollution abatements completed this fiscal year	7
Cost of pollution abatements completed this fiscal year	\$ 27,000.63

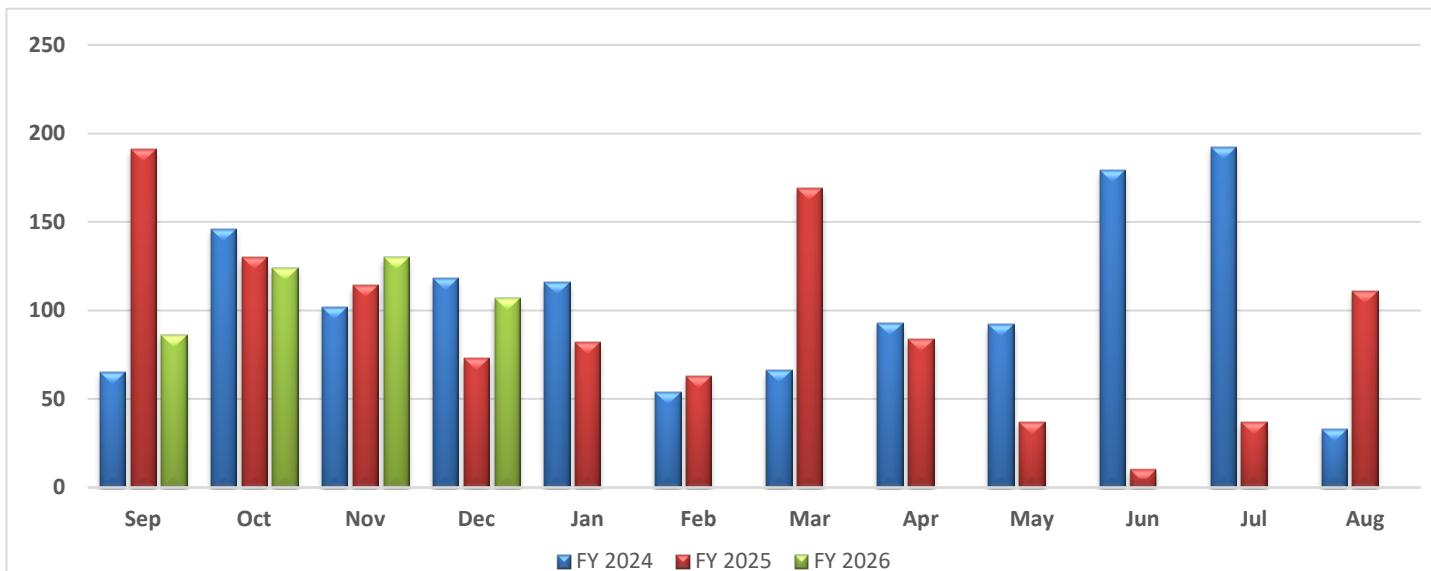
**Salvage Activities**

Number of salvage activities completed this month	24
Total proceeds received this month	\$ 87,080.88
Number of salvage activities completed this fiscal year	124
Total proceeds received this year	\$ 620,402.37

# State Managed Well Plugging Program

## Monthly Wells Plugged

### December 2025

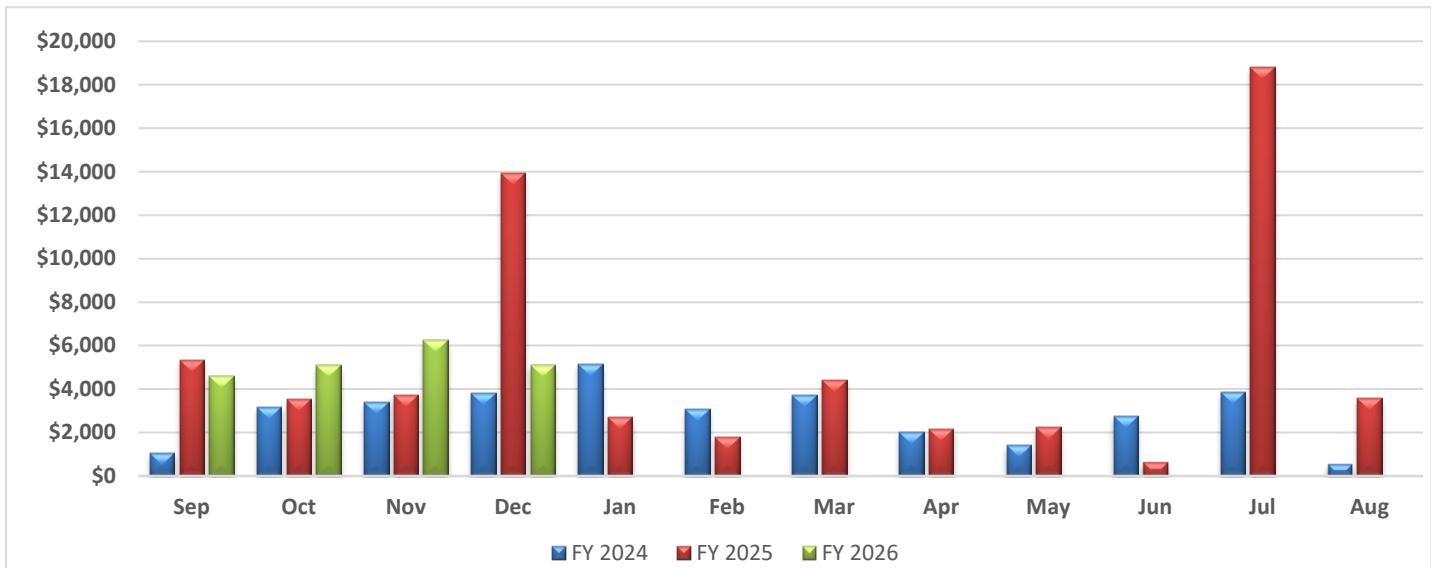


	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Tot
FY 2024	65	146	102	118	116	54	66	93	92	179	192	33	1,256
FY 2025	191	130	114	73	82	63	169	84	37	10	37	111	1,101
FY 2026	86	124	130	107									447

# State Managed Well Plugging Program

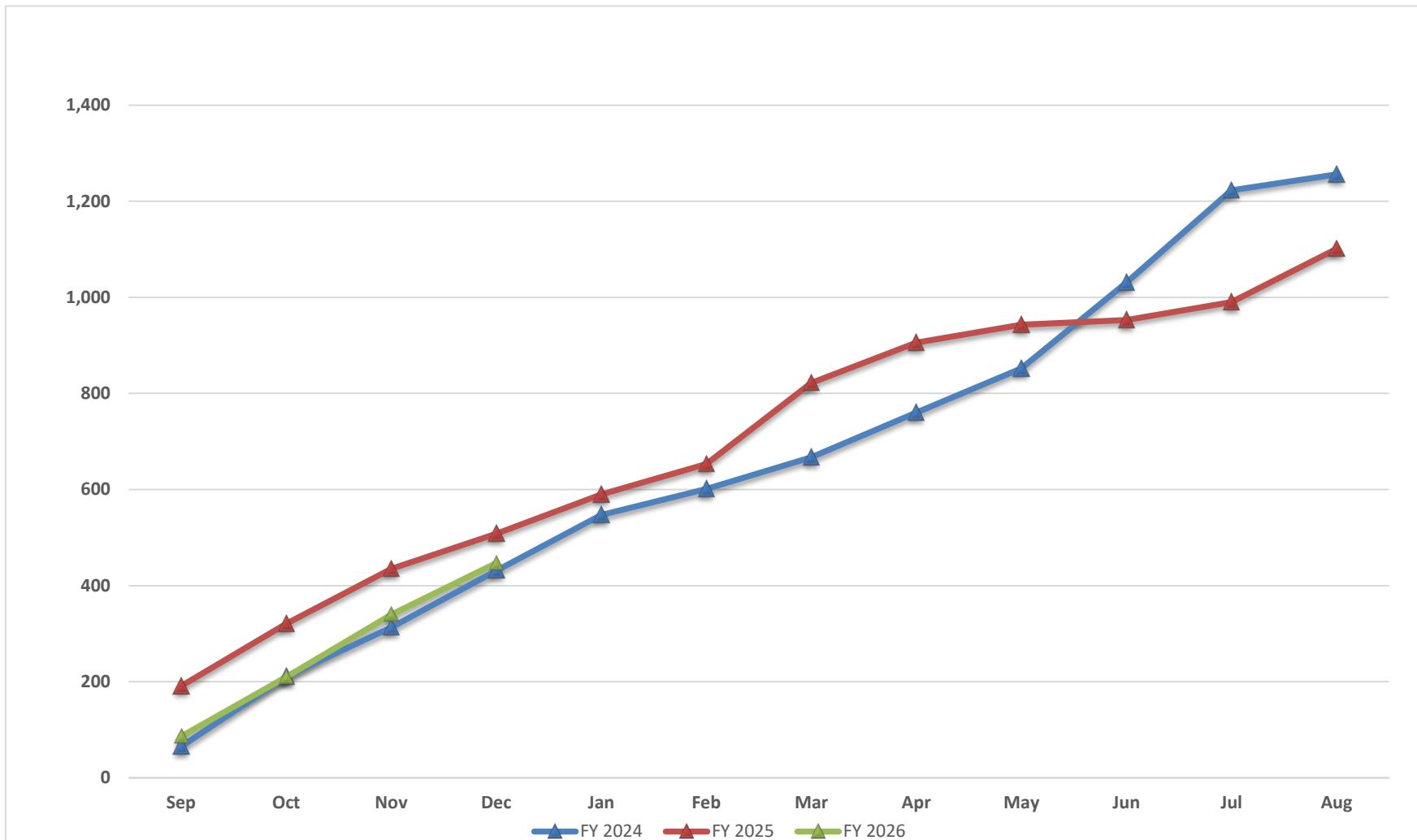
## Monthly Cost of Wells Plugged

### December 2025



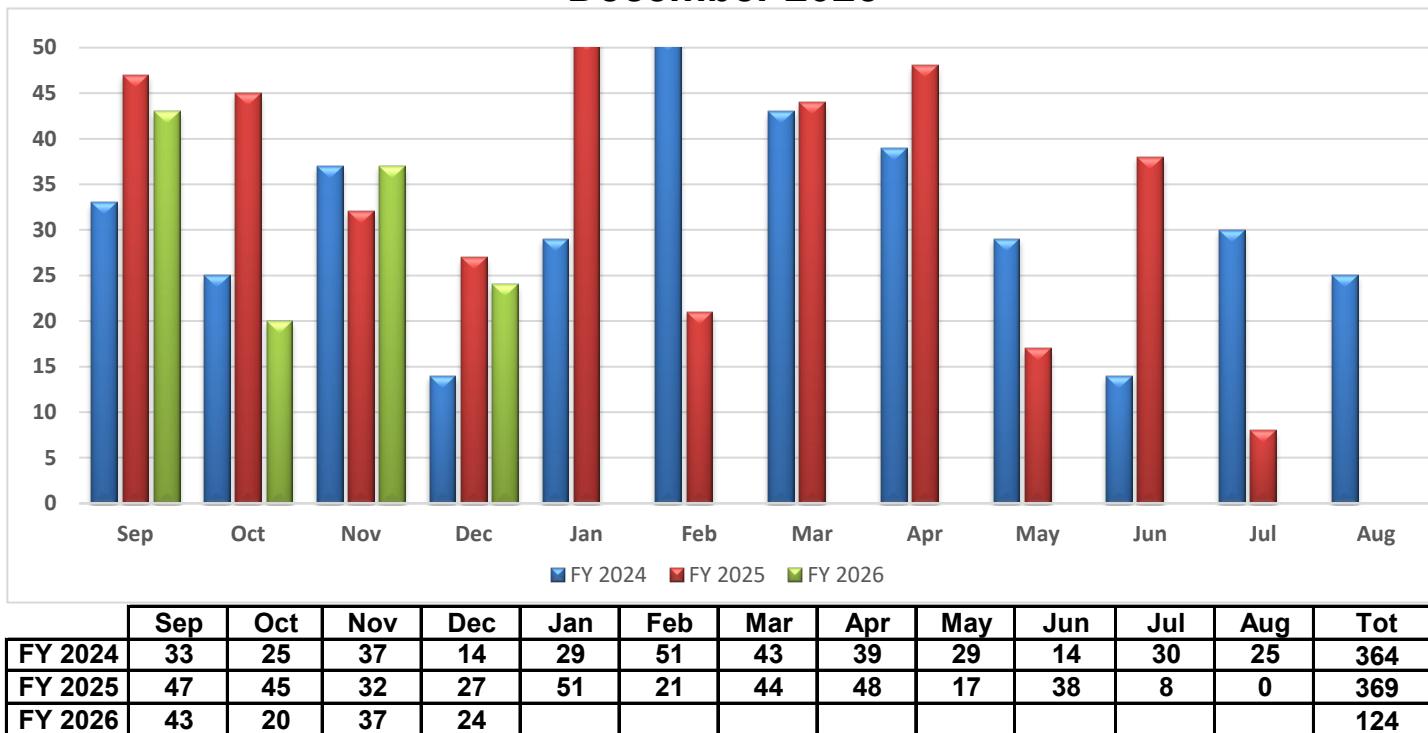
\$M	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Tot
FY 2024	\$1,065	\$3,140	\$3,400	\$3,822	\$5,161	\$3,090	\$3,730	\$2,017	\$1,417	\$2,760	\$3,849	\$550	\$34,001
FY 2025	\$5,321	\$3,515	\$3,728	\$13,952	\$2,712	\$1,785	\$4,389	\$2,174	\$2,240	\$638	\$18,824	\$3,553	\$62,830
FY 2026	\$4,571	\$5,092	\$6,228	\$5,104									\$20,994

**State Managed Well Plugging Program**  
**Cumulative Wells Plugged**  
**December 2025**

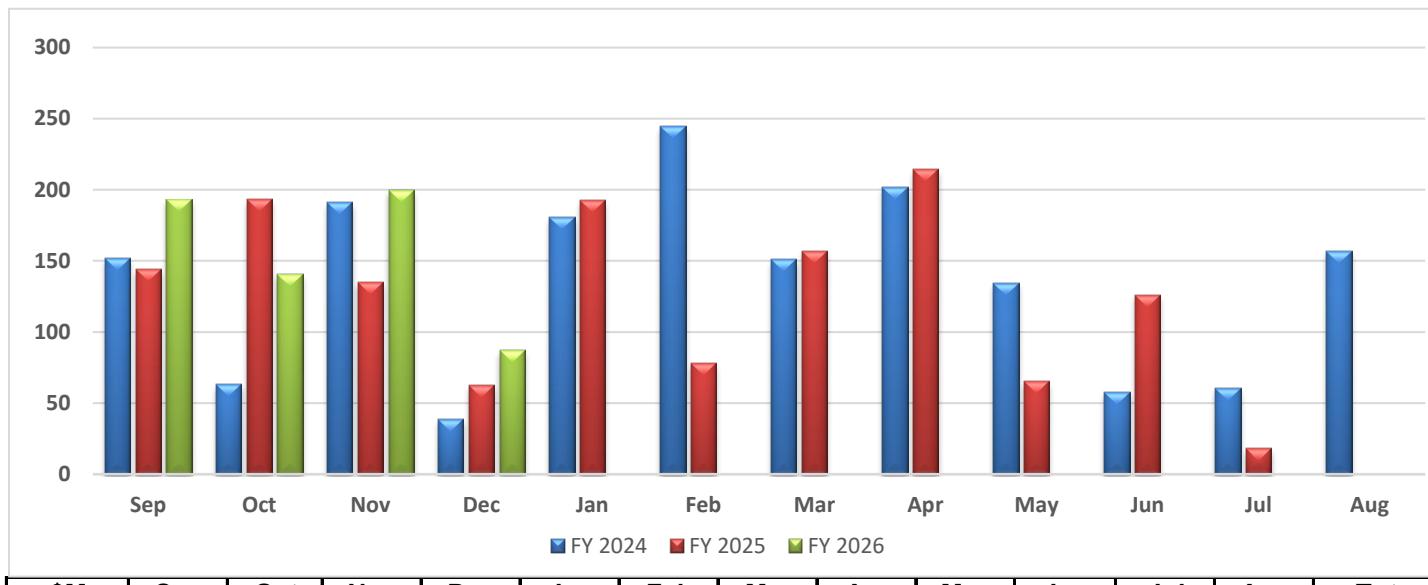


	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
<b>FY 2024</b>	65	211	313	431	547	601	667	760	852	1,031	1,223	1,256
<b>FY 2025</b>	191	321	435	508	590	653	822	906	943	953	990	1,101
<b>FY 2026</b>	86	210	340	447								

**State Managed Well Plugging Program**  
**Monthly Salvage Operations**  
**December 2025**

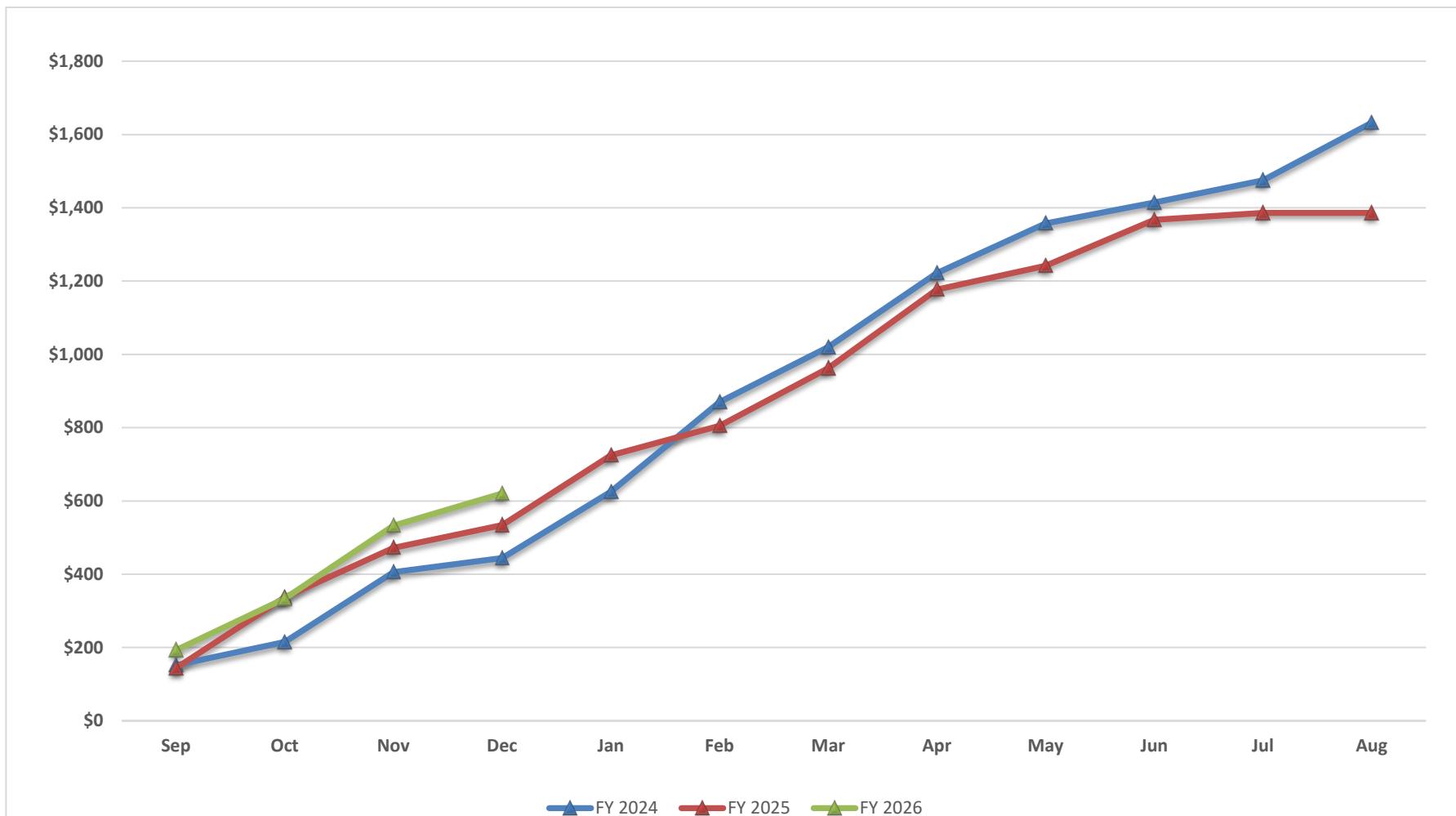


**State Managed Well Plugging Program**  
**Monthly Salvage Proceeds**  
**December 2025**



\$M	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Tot
FY 2024	\$152	\$63	\$191	\$39	\$181	\$245	\$151	\$202	\$135	\$57	\$61	\$157	\$1,632
FY 2025	\$144	\$193	\$135	\$62	\$193	\$78	\$157	\$214	\$65	\$126	\$18	\$0	\$1,386
FY 2026	\$193	\$141	\$200	\$87									\$620

**State Managed Well Plugging Program**  
**Cumulative Salvage Proceeds**  
**December 2025**



\$M	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
<b>FY 2024</b>	<b>\$152</b>	<b>\$215</b>	<b>\$406</b>	<b>\$444</b>	<b>\$625</b>	<b>\$870</b>	<b>\$1,020</b>	<b>\$1,222</b>	<b>\$1,357</b>	<b>\$1,414</b>	<b>\$1,475</b>	<b>\$1,632</b>
<b>FY 2025</b>	<b>\$144</b>	<b>\$338</b>	<b>\$472</b>	<b>\$534</b>	<b>\$724</b>	<b>\$805</b>	<b>\$962</b>	<b>\$1,176</b>	<b>\$1,242</b>	<b>\$1,367</b>	<b>\$1,386</b>	<b>\$1,386</b>
<b>FY 2026</b>	<b>\$193</b>	<b>\$334</b>	<b>\$533</b>	<b>\$620</b>								