

From: [Lyn McCollum](#)
To: [Eric Wilson](#)
Subject: State of Idaho rules re: the capping of wells
Date: Tuesday, May 31, 2016 12:19:04 PM

Eric,
I attended your IDAPA 20 rules meeting today.

I'm a U of Wyo grad who drove to my 50th Torrington High School reunion a couple years ago. My husband Joe & I have raised our children here, and are now happily watching our grandchildren participate in Idaho grade school activities.

I'm saddened by areas of economic decline in my home state caused by the methane industry collapse. On the other hand, I'm encouraged that you're drafting language to require companies to put up bonds to cover cleanup costs. Idaho is in the enviable position of learning from resource councils in other states. For example, in Wyoming companies are supposed to pay a second bond when the wells stop producing. Unfortunately, when large companies sold their wells--and the responsibility for plugging them--to smaller companies, the purchasing companies weren't required to post the second bond before going under. Each abandoned shallow coal-bed methane well in Wyoming costs about \$10,000 to plug.

Below are a couple websites reporting gas & oil well problems in neighboring states.

<http://www.npr.org/2015/10/19/449976530/with-abandoned-gas-wells-states-are-left-with-the-cleanup-bill>

and

<http://www.npr.org/2016/05/30/474100388/hidden-abandoned-dangerous-old-gas-and-oil-wells-in-neighborhoods>

Thanks,
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