

Found wells

Enforcement forwards narratives regarding found, unidentified wells in the field. Goal is to identify a likely serial number so operator of record or successor can properly plug the well. In the event a likely serial number cannot be identified, a serial number is assigned to track the well for proper plugging.

When narratives are forwarded, prioritize as follows:

- Leaking wells;
- Operators producing wells that are orphan or p&a status;
- Low priority mixups.

Narratives should include coordinates, casing sizes, and any research conducted by the CES including interviewing operator if found on an active lease. Preference is to have a map of the entire lease in lieu of one-off narratives.

Compare coordinates to LFIR and OOSIR data via DODA queries and investigate any potential mismatches:

- LFIRs by Lat Long
- Orphan inspections by Lat Long

See “Found well” video for guidance of utilizing the above queries.

Plot coordinates in GIS to compare to oil/gas well data as well as water well registration. Note- there are known errors in GIS, so cannot rely on GIS alone. Must compare to well file.

- Most water well registrations are available in Document Access as document type GWR Water Well Registration Long/Short Form.

GIS result:

Water Well Num
037-5054Z

Document Access parameters:

Date(mm/dd/yyyy):	<input type="text"/>	To	<input type="text"/>
G W R Well Number:	<input type="text" value="5054Z"/>		
Parish Code:	<input type="text" value="037"/>		
Water Well Contractor:	<input type="text"/>		
Well Owner:	<input type="text"/>		
Well Serial Number:	<input type="text"/>		
<input type="checkbox"/> Get associated documents			
<input type="button" value="SEARCH"/>		<input type="button" value="CLEAR"/>	

If a likely well is not identified, begin search by using the SONRIS Data Portal > Well Information > Well Casings query and search by Section – Township – Range. Filter results to found casing sizes then review Well Files for permit calls.

If not identified via casing, review all wells in Section – Township – Range (SONRIS Data Portal > Well Information > Wells by Section, Township, and Range) and note permit calls in tabular format from common corner. Coordinate with GIS specialist to assist with mapping.

If no well serial number identified, assign next 990### well serial number.

Narratives to review: F:\OoC\Eng\Engineering\Inspection & Enforcement\NARRATIVES

Coordinate with Enforcement if item encountered is questionable- ie, in some cases, not clear that it's a well. Should it be given a well serial number OR be considered a part of an orphan site?