North Dakota Industrial Commission

North Dakota Department of Mineral Resources

North Dakota Oil & Gas Division

Nathan Anderson
Director

Mark Bohrer
Assistant Director

Abandoned Oil and Gas Well Plugging and Site Reclamation Fund Program **(AWPSRF)**

Program Team Contacts:

Robin Loumer
Program Fund Manager
Bismarck
(701) 328-8020
rdloumer@nd.gov

Cody VanderBusch
Reclamation Supervisor
Bismarck
*(701) **328-8018***
cwvanderbusch@nd.gov

David Tabor
Field Supervisor
Bismarck
(701) 328-8020
adtabor@nd.gov

Nicole Ewoniuk
Dickinson District Supervisor
(701) 290-1527
naewoniuk@nd.gov

Gunther Harms
Williston District Supervisor
(701) 770-2564
ghharms@nd.gov

Scott Dihle
Minot District Supervisor
(701) 720-5660
sdihle@nd.gov

ABANDONED OIL AND GAS WELL PLUGGING AND SITE RECLAMATION FUND (AWPSRF) REVIEW

Effective 7/1/2013

Funds Request / Complaint Investigation 43-02-03-54 / Discovery by Inspector / Spill Response

AUTHORIZED USE OF FUND?

1) Plug an abandoned well
2) Reclaim an abandoned oil and gas or injection well site, saltwater disposal pit, drilling fluid pit, or access road put into service after 7/31/1983
3) Reclaim an oil and gas related pipeline or associated facility put into service after 7/31/1983
4) Reclaim damage from an illegal dumping incident,
5) Compensate a mineral owner's royalty share of confiscated oil

YES

NO → DO NOT FUND

LEAK OR SERIOUS THREAT?

Well, equipment, or pipeline leak, or dumping incident is likely to cause a serious threat of pollution or injury to public health or safety

NO

YES → USE AWPSRF
Unless responsible party is responding

NO RESPONSIBLE PARTY?

Company cannot be found, has no assets, or cannot be legally required to plug/re-plug/reclaim

YES

NO → COMPLAINT or JUDGMENT ==> RESPONSIBLE PARTY CLEANS UP, PAYS, OR REIMBURSES AWPSRF

NO BOND?

No bond or cost to plug/re-plug/reclaim exceeds the bond amount

YES

NO → CONFISCATE BOND, EQUIPMENT, AND OIL

USE ABANDONED OIL AND GAS WELL PLUGGING AND SITE RECLAMATION FUND (AWPSRF)

4415 East Burdick Expy
Minot, ND 58701
P (701) 282-9633
Terracon.com

January 8, 2026

North Dakota Department of Mineral Resources
600 East Boulevard Avenue Dept. 405
Bismarck, North Dakota 58505

Attn: Mr. Cody VanderBusch
701-338-8020
cwvanderbusch@nd.gov

Braaflat Borehole Sealings

Southwest of Plaza, Mountrail County, North Dakota

SWSE Section 2 T152N R89W; 48.007161°, -102.029305°

NWNE Section 12 T152N R89W; 48.006808°, -102.010903°

The North Dakota Industrial Commission (NDIC) contacted Terracon via email on December 15, 2025 about performing a site visit to a suspected old seismic hole from the 50s or 60s that is flowing water. The NDIC has requested that Terracon attempts to find and plug the old seismic holes.

Terracon Scope of Work

- Landowner contact
- Initial site visit
- Attempt plugging the old seismic holes
- Preparation and delivery of summary report describing field events

Corrective Action Process/Plugging

- Terracon would seal the abandoned boreholes in accordance with North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality (NDDEQ) water well abandonment guidelines outlined in Article 33-18 of the North Dakota Administrative Code (NDAC) by restoring, as far as possible, the geological conditions which existed before the boreholes were drilled.
- Each borehole would be made free of all loose material that could cause bridging during decommissioning by over-drilling using solid/hollow stem auger or air/mud rotary drilling techniques.
- The borehole will be filled with an appropriate plugging material to a depth not less than three feet below grade surface. Neat cement or a cement/bentonite mixture may be used throughout the entire length of the borehole. Grout will be injected at the bottom of the hole using a pressure grouting technique or gravity-fed with a tremie' pipe forcing grout and fluids present upwards. This will be done in one continuous operation in such a fashion as to prevent voids or air pockets from forming; side-discharge tremie' pipe will be placed in the hole and slowly pulled up as the grout reaches the bottom of the tremie' pipe. Concrete or topsoil will be used as a cap for the remainder of the borehole to the surface. If Terracon's efforts to grout the borehole from the bottom up are unsuccessful due to flowing water, Terracon will reverse drill bentonite pellets packing the borehole in efforts to seal it.

Skylar Kjos
Senior Staff Scientist/Project Manager

Jon B. Ellingson, PG, CPG
Principal/Authorized Project Reviewer

4415 East Burdick Expy
Minot, ND 58701
P (701) 282-9633
Terracon.com