



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
Oil and Gas Management Program

Application for Orphan Well Classification

DEP USE ONLY	
G	C
OGO #	INV
Approved by:	
Regional Manager	Date

Please read instructions on the back before proceeding. Type or print information on this form.

Name of applicant	DEP ID #	Project Number (If previously assigned):	
Address		County	
City	State	Zip Code	Applicant's Signature
Phone	Fax	Print or type signer's name and title	

Please provide all available information. Group all wells in the same county on one form. Use a separate form for each different county. See back of form (page 2) for detailed instructions.

The person signing this application verifies that the information provided is true and correct to the best of his (her) knowledge. Applicants making false statements are subject to penalties under 18 Pa. Code §§ 4903 – 4904, relating to unsworn falsifications to authorities.

Well Permit or Registration # (if known)	Municipality	Farm (Well) Name	Well #	Serial #	Date Last Operated	Last Known Operator

Please provide all information you have about the wells listed. If you do not know the Date Last Operated, enter “unknown”. This date must be established before DEP can classify any well to be an orphan well.

The Department may classify an abandoned well as an orphan well if:

- It was abandoned before the Oil and Gas Act became effective (April 18, 1985);
- and the current owner or lessee never operated the well nor did anything to affect the well (e.g., strip equipment or re-plumb it);
- and the current owner, operator, or lessee never received any “economic benefit” (ever) from the well except as a landowner or a recipient of a royalty interest.

According to the Oil and Gas Act (*58 PS 601.509(4)*), it is unlawful to attempt to identify a well as an orphan well by misrepresentation or failure to disclose all relevant facts.

“Where the department determines that a prior owner or operator received economic benefit, other than economic benefit derived only as a landowner or from a royalty interest, subsequent to April 18, 1979, from an orphan well or from a well which has not been registered, such owner or operator shall be responsible for plugging of the well.” (*58 P.S. 601.210(a)*)