



ABANDONED WELL SITES

Foothills County

309 Macleod Trail, Box 5605, High River, AB T1V 1M7 Tel: 403-652-2341 Fax: 403-652-7880

The location of oil and gas wells that are being drilled or are actively producing is evident, both from the surface and through a notation on the land title. Abandonment of an oil and gas well occurs by rendering the well incapable of flow and placing a cap over the casing approximately one meter below the surface. After surface reclamation is complete and a certificate is issued by Alberta Environment, the well site lease notation may be removed from the title. At this point, there is nothing visible on the surface or on the title to indicate the presence of an abandoned well.

Council and staff give serious consideration to information pertaining to abandoned well sites when evaluating applications for subdivision, land use amendment or redesignation, development permits, and building permits.



The Alberta government has recently introduced new requirements for developers and property owners relating to abandoned wells.

Effective November 1st 2012, subdivision and development applications must be accompanied by documentation from the Alberta Energy Regulator (AER) indicating the presence or absence of abandoned wells on-site. If abandoned wells do exist on-site, subdivision and development applications must show exactly where the wells exist, what the setback distances are (if setbacks are required) and how they have been taken into account. To assist applicants in collecting the required information, the AER has released an 'Abandoned Well Map Viewer' that provides the location, name of the licensee, and status of abandoned wells across Alberta. The viewer is available at:

<https://extmapviewer.aer.ca/AERAbandonedWells/Index.html>

Through use of the viewer, subdivision and development applications must now contain the following:

1. A map of the search area from the viewer and a statement that there are no wells in the project area or;
2. A list and map identifying the locations of abandoned wells within the search area, including the surface coordinates, as provided by the viewer or Information Services;
3. Written confirmation from the applicant that the licensee responsible for each well has been contacted and the exact well location confirmed;
4. A sketch of the proposed development incorporating the necessary setback area for each well;
5. If the development will result in construction activity within the setback area, a statement confirming that the abandoned wells will be temporarily marked with on-site identification to prevent contact during construction.

The AER Calgary Office can be contacted at:

AER Calgary (Head Office)
Suite 1000, 250 - 5th St. SW
Calgary, AB T2P 0R4
Phone: (403) 297-8311
Toll Free: 1-855-297-8377
Fax: (403) 297-7336
Email: inquiries@aer.ca

This form shall accompany all applications for Land use, Subdivisions, Development Permits and Building Permits.

If no wells are listed on-site:

I, _____ being the registered
Owner(s) or agent acting on behalf of the registered owner(s)
of _____
(Legal Description)

Do hereby confirm that I have done my due diligence as required by Alberta Municipal Affairs, Foothills County, and the AER by obtaining required information from the 'Abandoned Well Map Viewer" and/or through the AER Information Services, and hereby attach "Schedule A" containing a map of the search area from the viewer and a statement identifying that no abandoned well sites were noted on the above legal description.

Owner/Agent
DATED: this _____ day of _____, 20_____.

OR

If wells are listed on-site:

I, _____ being the registered
Owner(s) or agents acting on behalf of the registered owner(s)
of _____
(Legal Description)

Do hereby confirm that I have done my due diligence as required by Alberta Municipal Affairs, Foothills County, and the AER, by obtaining required information from the 'Abandoned Well Map Viewer" and/or through the AER Information Services, and hereby attach "Schedule A" containing a list and map identifying the locations of abandoned wells within the search area, including the surface coordinates, written confirmation that I have contacted the licensee for each well and that the exact location of each well has been confirmed, a sketch of the proposed development incorporating the necessary setback area for each well, and a statement confirming that abandoned wells will be temporarily marked with on-site identification to prevent contact during construction, if the development will result in construction activity within the setback area.

Owner/Agent
DATED: this _____ day of _____, 20_____.

***This form shall accompany all applications for Land use,
Subdivisions, Development Permits and Building Permits.***