

Bill Gaventa

The Leaking Water Wells Program, which should be known as the Leaking Old Oil/Waters Well Program, is so crucial, and, unfortunately, just a drop in the bucket. The program needs to get moving in terms of expending allocated funds to do its job, but also to advocate for more funding. I have always wondered why oil companies are not charged a percentage of income to build a fund to plug and fix wells in the future. It needs to be seen as a collective responsibility of the industry. Moreover, any agency with jurisdiction should be willing to collaborate with others to get it done, rather than taking the stance of "those are not our responsibility." Fixing leaking water and oil wells is something that can be done, relatively quickly, if the funds are there.