

# ADDRESSING METHANE EMISSIONS WILL CREATE JOBS IN LOUISIANA

In December 2023, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released new regulations to reduce methane pollution by requiring more responsible maintenance of active oil and gas infrastructure and the retirement of no longer economic oil and gas wells. Over two thousand Louisiana workers will be needed to patrol, test, and repair Louisiana's oil and gas infrastructure preventing pollution and conserving American energy.

Additionally, Louisiana can leverage just under \$200 million in federal funding authorized by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021 (IIJA) and the 2022 Inflation Reduction Act's Methane Emissions Reduction Program (MERP) to decommission orphaned wells across the state, creating hundreds of jobs.

## JOBS IMPACT

**2,649**

**METHANE ABATEMENT JOBS**

**520**

**IIJA/MERP - SUPPORTED-  
JOB-YEARS**

**BETWEEN 20,429  
AND 49,138 DIRECT  
JOB-YEARS.**

**JOB-YEARS TO PLUG ALL  
LOUISIANA WELLS (INCLUDING  
WETLAND AND OFFSHORE)**

## JOB CREATION POTENTIAL OF CURRENT FEDERAL EXPENDITURES

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Louisiana	Initial Grants (IIJA)	Total Formula Grants	Performance Grants	Marinal Wells Plugged (MERP)	Total
	\$25,000,000	\$86,559,520	\$70,000,000	\$15,661,335	\$197,220,855
Number of Wells Plugged assuming onshore \$87,232 per well cost	287	992	802	180	2,261
JOB ESTIMATION METHOD		JOB YEARS PER CATEGORY OF GRANT FUNDING			
Job-Years Per Decommissioned Well Method (0.23 Direct Job-Years Per Well)	66	228	185	41	520
Job-Years Per Decommissioned Well Method (0.55 Direct Job-Years Per Well)	158	546	441	99	1243
Job-Years Based on Spending Method (2 Direct Job-Years Per \$1 Million)	50	173	140	31	394
Job-Years Based on Spending Method (4 Direct Job-Years Per \$1 Million)	100	346	280	63	789

Source - Author's Analysis

