

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 60th Legislature (2025)

SENATE BILL 897

By: Bergstrom

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to the Corporation Commission;
amending 17 O.S. 2021, Section 180.10, which relates
to the Corporation Commission Plugging Fund;
modifying termination date of fund; updating
statutory language; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 17 O.S. 2021, Section 180.10, is
amended to read as follows:

Section 180.10. A. There is hereby created in the State
Treasury a fund for the Corporation Commission to be designated the
"Corporation Commission Plugging Fund". The plugging fund shall
consist of monies received by the Corporation Commission as required
by law to be deposited to the credit of ~~said~~ the fund. The fund
shall be a continuing fund not subject to fiscal year limitations
and shall not be subject to legislative appropriations.
Expenditures from the plugging fund shall be made pursuant to the
laws of this state and the statutes relating to the Corporation
Commission. For each fiscal year, the Commission may expend not

1 more than eight percent (8%) of the total amount deposited to the
2 credit of the plugging fund during the previous fiscal year for the
3 purpose of responding to occurrences of seeping natural gas as
4 provided for in Section 317.1 of Title 52 of the Oklahoma Statutes.
5 In addition, expenditures from the plugging fund may be made
6 pursuant to the Oklahoma Central Purchasing Act, Section 85.1 et
7 seq. of Title 74 of the Oklahoma Statutes, for purposes of
8 immediately responding to emergency situations, within the
9 Commission's jurisdiction, having potentially critical environmental
10 or public safety impact. Warrants for expenditures from the fund
11 shall be drawn by the State Treasurer, based on claims signed by an
12 authorized employee of the Corporation Commission and approved for
13 payment by the Director of the Office of Management and Enterprise
14 Services. The provisions of this act or rules promulgated pursuant
15 thereto, shall not be construed to relieve or in any way diminish
16 the surety bonding requirements required by Section 318.1 of Title
17 52 of the Oklahoma Statutes.

18 B. Prior to ~~July 1, 2026~~ July 1, 2036, the plugging fund shall
19 be maintained at Five Million Dollars (\$5,000,000.00). If the
20 plugging fund falls below the five-million-dollar maintenance level,
21 the Corporation Commission shall notify the Oklahoma Tax Commission
22 that the plugging fund has fallen below the required maintenance
23 level and that the excise tax which has been levied by subsection A
24 of Section 1101 of Title 68 of the Oklahoma Statutes and subsection

1 A of Section 1102 of Title 68 of the Oklahoma Statutes which is
2 credited and apportioned to the Corporation Commission Plugging Fund
3 pursuant to Section 1103 of Title 68 of the Oklahoma Statutes is to
4 be imposed. Such additional excise tax shall be imposed and
5 collected until such time as is necessary to meet the additional
6 five-million-dollar maintenance level. The Tax Commission shall
7 notify the persons responsible for payment of the excise tax on oil
8 and gas of the imposition of such tax. The provisions of this
9 subsection shall terminate on ~~July 1, 2026~~ July 1, 2036.

10 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2025.
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