Process to Acquire an Orphan Well

Regulator Directed Transfer or RDT

Party Interested in taking an orphan well MUST

Submit a written request to the OWA, at RDT@orphanwell.ca. The OWA then notifies the AER which triggers a 6 month deadline to submit a completed RDT application. The AER will follow up with the RDT application documents.

Party must obtain Mineral Rights Agreement from the Crown/Freehold/Lessee of an active mineral rights agreement

Party must obtain Surface Lease with Landowner/Crown

Party (now Applicant) applies to AER for an RDT to receiver transfer of the orphan well/pipeline/facility license

Applicant MUST qualify for an RDT with AER by:

- Holding mineral tenure to orphan well zone of interest
- Holding surface lease to access orphan well of interest
- Being a qualified licensee to hold well licenses with AER
- Being compliant with AER requirements
- Meeting AER well license transfer requirements

AER reviews and approves or rejects transfer of orphan licenses to Applicant (now Licensee) and notifies OWA to remove orphans from inventory

Licensee applies to Crown for approval to use a vested orphan wellbore (owned by the Crown). Crown "links" vested orphan wellbore to Licensee's Mineral Rights Lease

Licensee can now produce