

Closure Nomination

Those who qualify can nominate eligible inactive or abandoned oil and gas wells and facilities for closure.

What is closure?

Closure is the process of permanently ending energy resource development at a site once oil or gas production has ended. The company must return the site to equivalent land capability—meaning to a state similar to what it was in before development took place.

Who can nominate a well or facility for closure?

Only individuals who meet eligibility criteria can nominate a well or facility for closure. Eligible requesters are defined in section 3.016 of the *Oil and Gas Conservation Rules* and include the following:

- private landowners
- First Nation band councils
- the council or chairperson of a Métis settlement
- a municipal councillor or chief elected official (e.g., mayor or reeve)
- disposition holders
- Environment and Protected Areas and Forestry and Parks

An eligible requester may only nominate wells or facilities that are on lands over which they have authority. For example, a municipal councillor or chief elected official may nominate eligible wells or facilities on land owned by a municipality. Government ministers may nominate eligible wells or facilities situated on public lands.

What is an eligible well or facility?

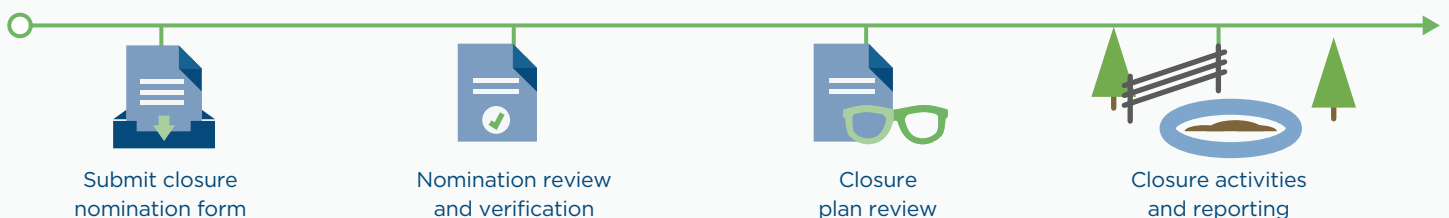
As defined in the *Oil and Gas Conservation Rules*, a well or facility may be nominated if it is in Alberta, regulated by the AER and has been in an abandoned or inactive state for at least five years.

How will the process work?

The AER reviews the nomination against the requester and well or facility eligibility criteria outlined in *Manual 023: Licensee Life-Cycle Management* and will let the requester and licensee know if the nomination was accepted. Nominations that have been accepted will also be posted on the closure nomination dashboard.

The licensee must provide us with a closure plan for the well or facility within 90 days of being notified of the nomination.

CLOSURE NOMINATION PROCESS





How can I nominate a well or facility?

To nominate a well or facility, complete the [closure nomination form](#) on aer.ca or, if you require assistance, email closure.nomination@aer.ca. For more information about the process to nominate a site for closure, visit our [Closure Nomination](#) page on aer.ca.

When will the nominated well or facility be closed?

Closure takes time and may take 10 years or more, depending on the complexity of the site. There are multiple phases of closure, including decommissioning, environmental site assessments, remediation, and reclamation.

Up-to-date information about the status of closure activities for each nomination that the AER has accepted can be found on the [closure nomination dashboard](#) on aer.ca.

QUESTIONS?



Contact us at

[**closure.nomination@aer.ca**](mailto:closure.nomination@aer.ca)