

Present law grants the commission any function authorized by present law that is consistent with its purpose. Proposed law limits functions to those not otherwise assigned to the secretary or the assistant secretary.

Proposed law limits the cost of closing and restoring nonpriority orphaned oilfield sites to 20% of the amount expended from the Fund in any fiscal year, unless otherwise approved by the commission. Proposed law excludes from this limitation expenses the sum of \$30 million from the first federal funds received by the state for which oilfield site restoration or plugging orphan wells is an allowable use, monies from federal appropriations or any federal grant program for the purpose of restoring orphan oilfield sites, or emergency response costs.

Present law provides that costs to administer present law shall not exceed \$950,000 each fiscal year. Proposed law provides that monies collected from civil penalties or cost recovered from responsible parties do not count towards this administrative expenditure limit.

Present law authorizes the fund to contribute the balance of the restoration costs for a site if the site-specific trust account for a nonorphan site is depleted if the assistant secretary declares that oilfield site to be an orphaned oilfield site. Proposed law retains present law except requires approval by the commission.

Present law requires a contract for site assessment or site restoration to require a formal bid process.

Present law authorizes an exemption for these contracts from the provisions of the Public Bid Law and the Louisiana Procurement Code if the assistant secretary promulgates rules for contacting procedures. Further, the procedures must be in substantial compliance with the Public Bid Law and shall require a formal bid process.

Present law authorizes the assistant secretary to employ an informal bidding procedure to respond to an emergency in which bids are solicited from at least three bidders. Further, requires these contracts be reviewed prior to execution by the assistant secretary and all informally bid contracts be reviewed by the secretary. Proposed law retains present law.

Proposed law authorizes the secretary through a contract entered into under any competitive process authorized by present law to expend any monies deposited pursuant to the sum of \$30 million from the first federal funds received by the state for which oilfield site restoration or plugging orphan wells is an allowable use or monies from federal appropriations or any federal grant program for the purpose of restoring orphan oilfield sites.

Effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 30:83(F)(7), 86(E)(2), 89(C)(3), and 92(A) and (C); adds R.S. 30:83(F)(8), 84(A)(3) and (8); repeals R.S. 30:85(B))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Natural Resources to the original bill

1. Designates the appointed executive director as an unclassified employee.
2. Makes technical changes.