

## Draft Funded Priorities List 3b

### Proposal Abstract

**Sponsor:** U.S. Department of the Interior, through the U.S. National Park Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

**Proposal:** Decommissioning Onshore Orphaned Energy Facilities on NPS and FWS lands

The U.S. Department of the Interior, through the U.S. National Park Service (NPS) and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), is requesting \$10,595,140 in Council-Selected Restoration Component funding for the proposed Decommissioning Onshore Orphaned Energy Facilities on NPS and FWS Lands program. This includes approximately \$8.1M for project sites which are ready for implementation and planning as FPL Category 1 and approximately \$2.5M for project implementation as Category 2. The program will support the primary RESTORE Comprehensive Plan goal to restore and conserve habitat through activities to decommission and restore orphaned energy facilities on USFWS and NPS preserves and refuges in coastal Texas. The proposed program builds on investments made in the Council's 2015 Initial FPL, and includes work to plug 5 wells and restore 25 orphaned sites. Environmental clearances for most NPS sites have been completed. FWS clearances and remaining NPS sites are not complete, but this is expected to be a straightforward process.

Orphaned oil and gas facilities include unplugged wells, surface equipment, roads, and production pads. They pose risks to human safety, environmental risks to surface and subsurface resources, and continued habitat loss. The program would decommission orphaned wells and restore sites to conditions that existed before the sites were established. Program duration is 5 years.