§ 23-2402. New York state oil energy conservation program.

1. The department shall actively implement a modern oil well closure technologies program which shall assist in the implementation of closure technologies on abandoned oil wells and well fields in the state. The program shall:

a. promote the implementation of plugging closure technologies on abandoned oil wells; and

b. identify special needs and problems facing firms implementing well plugging technologies on abandoned oil wells and recommend approaches and solutions to address such identified needs and problems.

2. The program shall provide for grants for programs of oil well plugging on abandoned oil wells by persons, firms, or corporations located in the state of New York.

3. Applications for grants under this program shall be evaluated based upon the following criteria:

a. the technical feasibility of the proposals;

b. the energy conservation potential of such applications;

c. the extent such closure will provide for high grade crude oil utilized for the development of high efficiency lubricants;

d. the environmental benefits to be accrued from the utilization of such technologies; and

e. the possibilities for dissemination of the closure technologies to other firms.

4. The department, in carrying out the provisions of this title, shall coordinate, where feasible, with the state energy office.