

WEST VIRGINIA CODE: §22-10-11

§22-10-11. Existing rights and remedies preserved.

(a) It is the purpose of this article to provide additional and cumulative remedies to address abandoned wells in this state and nothing herein contained shall abridge or alter rights of action or remedies now or hereafter existing, nor shall any provisions in this article, or any act done by virtue of this article, be construed as estopping the state, municipalities, public health officers or persons in the exercise of their rights to suppress nuisance or to abate any pollution now or hereafter existing, or to recover damages.

(b) An order of the director, the effect of which is to find that an abandoned well exists, or in ordering an abandoned well to be plugged, or any other order, or any violation of any of the provisions of this article shall give rise to no presumptions of law or findings of fact inuring to or for the benefit of persons other than the State of West Virginia.

(c) Nothing contained in this article shall be construed to place any duty or responsibility on the landowner, well owner or operator or lessee to plug a well in addition to those set forth in article six of this chapter.