



W. Va. Code 22-6A-14
Reclamation

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W. Va. Code 22-6A-14(a)(4) - Reclamation

The operator shall reclaim the area of land disturbed in siting, drilling, completing or producing the horizontal well in accordance with the **erosion and sediment control plans** approved ...



W. Va. Code 22-6A-14(a)(1) - Reclamation for Single Well Pads

Within six months after a horizontal well is drilled and completed on a well pad designed for a single horizontal well, the operator shall:

Well Pad

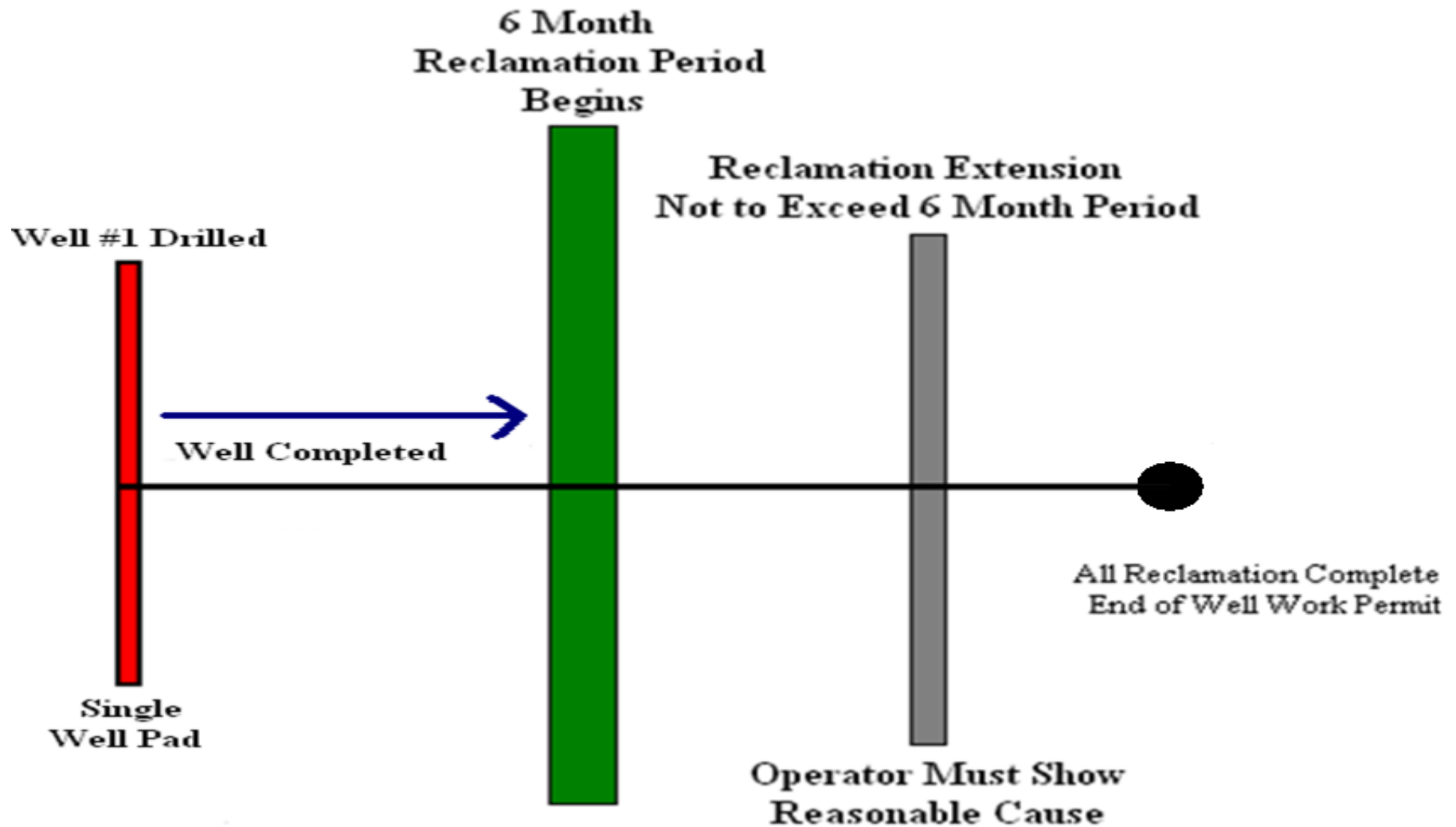
- Remove all concrete bases, drilling supplies and drilling equipment:
- *Provided*, That impoundments or pits for which certificates have been approved pursuant to section nine of this article shall be reclaimed at a time and in a manner as provided in the applicable certificate and section nine.
- Within that six-month period, the operator shall grade or terrace and plant, seed or sod the area disturbed that is not required in production of the horizontal well in accordance with the erosion and sediment control plan.

Pits/Impoundments

- Fill all the pits and impoundments that are not required or allowed by state or federal law or rule or agreement between the operator and the surface owner that allows the impoundment to remain open for the use and benefit of the surface owner (i.e. a farm ponds).
- No pit may be used for the ultimate disposal of salt water.
- Salt water and oil shall be periodically drained or removed and properly disposed of from any pit that is retained so the pit is kept reasonably free of salt water and oil.
- Pits may not be left open permanently.



W. Va. Code 22-6A-14 - Reclamation for Single Well Pad



W. Va. Code 22-6A-14(a)(2) - Reclamation for Multi-Well Pads

For well pads designed to contain multiple horizontal wells, partial reclamation shall begin upon completion of the construction of the well pad.

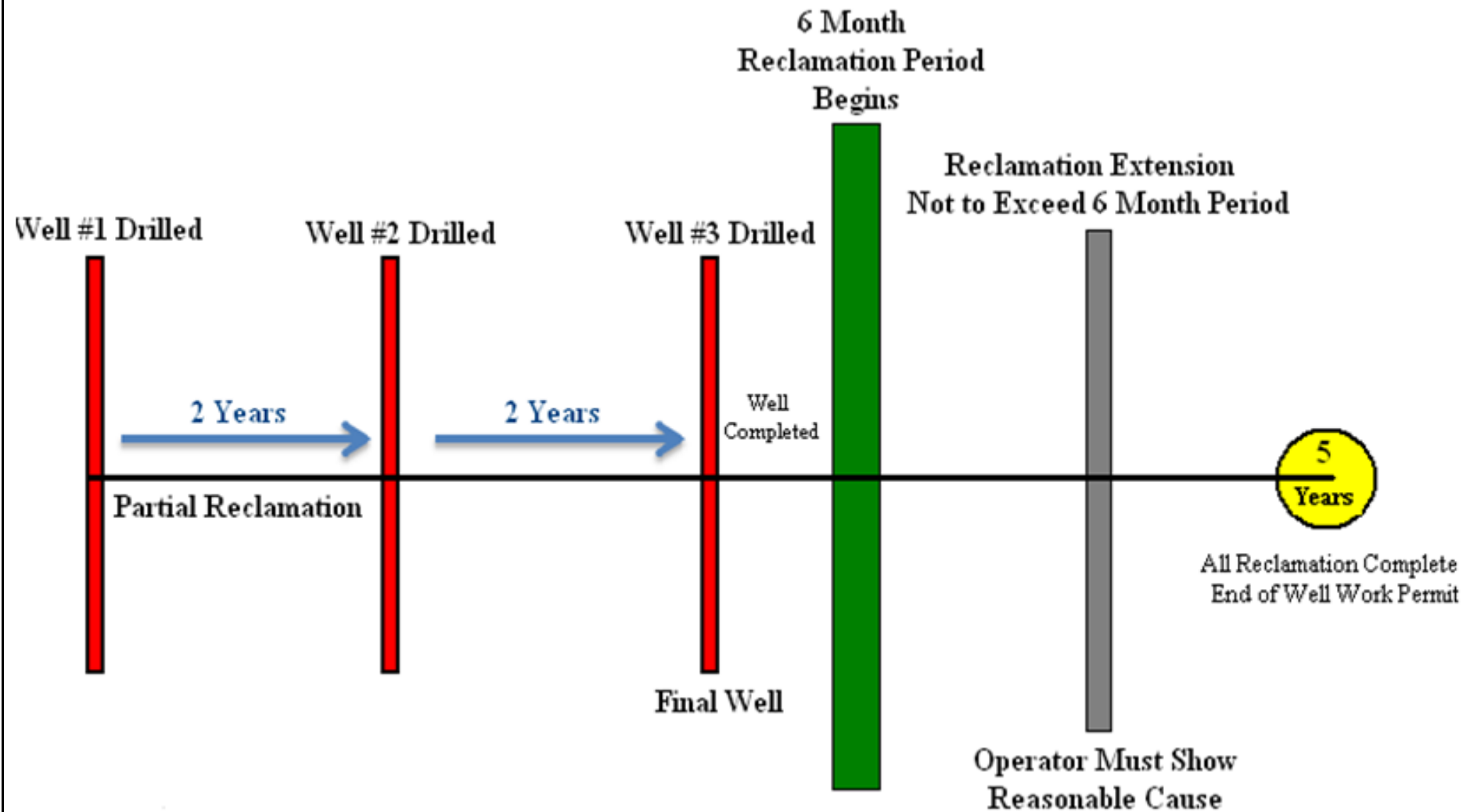
Partial Reclamation means grading or terracing and planting, or seeding the area disturbed that is not required in drilling, completing or producing any of the horizontal wells on the well pad in accordance with the erosion and sediment control plan.

Partial reclamation satisfies the reclamation requirements for a maximum of **twenty-four months** between the drilling of horizontal wells on a well pad designed to contain multiple horizontal wells: *Provided*, That the maximum aggregate period in which partial reclamation satisfies the reclamation requirements of this section is **five years** from completion of the construction of the well pad.

Within **six months** after the completion of the final horizontal well on the pad or the expiration of the **five-year** maximum aggregate partial reclamation period, whichever occurs first, the operator shall complete final reclamation of the well pad...



W. Va. Code 22-6A-14 - Reclamation for Multi-Well Pad



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W. Va. Code 22-6A-14(b) Reclamation Extension

- The secretary, upon written application by an operator showing reasonable cause, **may** extend the period within which reclamation must be completed, but not to exceed a further six-month period.
- If the secretary refuses to approve a request for extension, the refusal shall be by order, which may be appealed pursuant to the provisions of subdivision twenty-three, subsection (a), section five of this article.

W. Va. Code 22-6A-14(a)(3) Plugging Reclamation

- Within six months after a horizontal well that has produced oil or gas is plugged or after the plugging of a dry hole, the operator shall remove all production and storage structures, supplies and equipment and any oil, salt water and debris and fill any remaining excavations.
- Within that six-month period, the operator shall grade or terrace and plant, seed or sod the area disturbed where necessary to bind the soil and prevent substantial erosion and sedimentation.



Questions?

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