

Fossil Energy and Carbon Management

Methane Mitigation Technologies Program Overview

CH₄ Connections 2022

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Program Mission

Administration's Goals





Accelerate the development and deployment of **technology solutions** to increase the efficiency, reliability, resiliency, and **elimination of methane emissions** across the oil and natural gas infrastructure—from oil and natural gas production, through processing, transportation, and storage, to end-use utilization.



Dynamic Factors Shape R&D Portfolio



Shifting Priorities of Industry Research Partners



International Considerations



Rapidly Changing Technology



National Laboratory and Academic Research Partners Capabilities





Methane Mitigation Technologies Division



Methane Emissions Mitigation

Advanced materials, data management tools, inspection and repair technologies, and dynamic compressor R&D for eliminating fugitive methane emissions across the natural gas value chain

Methane Emissions Quantification

Direct and remote measurement sensor technologies and collection of data, research, and analytics that quantify methane emissions from point sources along the upstream and midstream portion of the natural gas value chain

Decarbonization of Natural Gas Resources

Technologies for carbon-neutral hydrogen production, safe and efficient transportation, and geologic storage technologies supported by analytical tools and models

Undocumented Orphaned Wells Research

Developing tools, technologies, and processes to efficiently identify and characterize undocumented orphaned wells in order to prioritize them for plugging and abandonment.



Detection, Measurement, and Monitoring Technologies

Methane Emissions Quantification

Direct and remote measurement sensor technologies and collection of data, research, and analytics that **quantify** and **characterize** methane emissions from point sources along oil and natural gas system

- Operating Marginal Oil and Natural Gas Wells
- Gathering and Compressor Boosting Stations
- Orphaned Oil and Natural Gas Wells
- Gathering Natural Gas Pipelines in Colorado/Utah/Ohio/New Mexico/Pennsylvania
- Metering and Regulating Stations
- Underground Natural Gas Storage Incident Emissions
- Smart Methane Emissions Detection System (SLED)
- Advancing Development of Emissions Detection (ADED)



Marginal Oil & Gas Wells

More than 1.1 million oil and natural gas wells in the U.S., of which approximately 770,000 (~70%) are considered "marginal" (<15 barrels of oil equivalent (BOE) per day of combined oil and natural gas)

How do marginal vs. non-marginal wells compare in terms of:

- Fugitive methane emission rates?
- Type and quantity of equipment?
- Equipment type/age/condition?
- Hydrocarbon Production rates?
- Frequency/timing of episodic high-emission events?
- Absolute contribution to total emissions?

Three Field Campaigns: 589 total sites sampled (524 "marginal")

- Appalachia: 168
- Midwest and Rocky Mountain: 151
- Western US region: 270

Exampe Result

The top 10% of emitting sources contributed
90% of total methane emissions observed



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Final Report: Quantification of Methane Emissions from Marginal (Low Production Rate) Oil and Natural Gas Wells (Technical Report) | OSTI.GOV

Mitigation Technologies

Methane Emissions Mitigation

Advanced sensors, tools, equipment, and technologies to **reduce** or **eliminate** chronic and acute methane emissions from point sources along the oil and natural gas value chain.

- Improved Compressor Designs and Retrofit Kits
- Smart Pipeline Sensors: Fiberoptic, Surface Acoustic Wave, Electrochemical
- Advanced Pipeline Repair Coatings
- Retrofit/self-healing pneumatic controllers
- Associated gas conversion to eliminate flaring
- Eliminating compressor engine methane exhaust slip
- In-line pipeline inspection and repair





Advancing Technology

Innovative Methane Measurement, Monitoring and Mitigation Technologies (iM⁴ Technologies)

- Advanced Methane Mitigation Technology Solutions
- Surface-based Methane Monitoring and Measurement Network Pilot Demonstration
- Basin Specific Methane Emissions Inventory via Field Assessments
- Integrate Methane Monitoring Platform Design
- Storage Tank Emissions (Field)

Scale: \$46 Million

FOA Closing: October 18, 2022

Project Awards: February 2023



DE-FOA 0002616





Eliminating Natural Gas Flaring

"Putting out the Fire"



Offshore





Abandoned Coal Mines







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