MANAGING METHANE RISK
Around the World

Methane emissions are not just a climate risk, they’re a global financial risk, as well. Natural gas’s future will depend, in part, on whether it is viewed around the world as playing a credible role in the transition to a decarbonized energy system. Uncontrolled methane emissions put that potential at significant risk.

Since 2014, Environmental Defense Fund has engaged the global investor community on the financial, reputational and regulatory risks posed by methane emissions from the oil and gas industry.

Methane emissions can be reduced affordably and quickly.
It’s time to act, and Environmental Defense Fund is ready to help.

Reducing Methane Risk for Shareholders

Limiting methane emissions from the oil and gas sector is our simplest, most affordable option to slow the rate of global warming now.

And it’s shareholder friendly. Modest investments in existing technologies and proven procedures can substantially reduce emissions while keeping valuable product from going to waste. Many emission reduction strategies can pay for themselves in under two years as more natural gas is kept in the pipeline.

Reducing global oil and gas methane emissions 45% by 2025 would have the same climate benefit over 20 years as closing one-third of the world’s coal plants.
Engaging with Global Investors

Momentum for global methane action is building within the investor community. To date, investors with $3.6 trillion in assets have advocated for improved reporting and oversight of oil and gas industry methane emissions.

Environmental Defense Fund is partnering with a growing, global network of investors who recognize methane mitigation as a viable strategy for companies to boost their operational efficiency and demonstrate climate leadership.

“Significant efforts in reducing methane emissions are required if gas (is) to have a beneficial role in replacing coal and lowering the carbon intensity of the power generation mix in the medium-term.”

-Matthias Beer, BMO Global Asset Management, $500 billion under management

Join Us

For more information about Environmental Defense Fund’s methane risk management work, contact Ben Ratner at bratner@edf.org or 202-387-3500.

TWO YEARS OF PROGRESS

OCTOBER 2014
Investors managing $300 billion call on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to finalize methane standards.

JULY 2015
Investors with $1.5 trillion under management tell the White House they support national methane standards.

DECEMBER 2015
Global disclosure platform CDP, with a $100 trillion investor network, incorporates methane metrics on target setting and leak detection into oil and gas supplement.

JANUARY 2016
Environmental Defense Fund report “Rising Risk: Improving Methane Disclosure in the Oil and Gas Industry” highlights the poor state of voluntary methane disclosure and offers recommendations to improve methane data to help investors.

MARCH 2016
Environmental Defense Fund briefs more than 60 investors in London, Paris and Amsterdam about the financial risk of methane emissions.

APRIL 2016
Investors representing $3.6 trillion commend the joint U.S.-Canada commitment to reduce oil and gas methane and urge other countries to follow suit.

MAY 2016
French bank Societe Generale publishes breakthrough investor report on methane risk management.

OCTOBER 2016
Environmental Defense Fund and UNPRI co-publish “An Investor’s Guide to Methane: Engaging With Oil and Gas Companies to Manage a Rising Risk,” which equips investors with benchmarking tools and key questions to manage risk constructively with oil and gas staff, management and boards.