2025 Natural Gas Leak Abatement (NGLA) Winter Workshop

10:00am-3:00pm

Wednesday, February 12, 2025



Welcome, Introductions, and Agenda CPUC



Housekeeping Notes

Audio

- Please mute your microphone unless you are speaking

Questions

- Please hold questions for Q&A sessions at the end of presentations, unless otherwise noted by speaker
- Click the hand next to your name in the participant list to raise hand → √
- Alternatively, type questions in the chat
- Staff will maintain a list of outstanding questions to resolve after the workshop

Timing

- We will try to stick to starting times for each presentation outlined in the agenda

Recording

- A link to the recording will me made available on the CPUC NGLA webpage (https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/about-cpuc/divisions/safety-policy-division/risk-assessment-and-safety-analytics/natural-gas-leak-abatement)

Agenda

PRESENTER	TOPIC	START TIME	END TIME							
	Introduction and Agency Reports									
CPUC/CARB	CPUC/CARB Introduction/Welcome									
CPUC/CARB	Review of the 2024 Joint Report	10:10 AM	10:25 AM							
	Appendix-Specific R&D and Updates									
Joint Utilities	Appendix 2 and 5 Emission Factors and Adjustments	10:25 AM	10:40 AM							
PG&E	Super Emitter Program Update	10:40 AM	10:55 AM							
	Template and Reporting Updates									
CPUC/CARB	Proposed Changes to the 2025 Reporting Templates and Procedures	10:55 AM	11:20 AM							
-	Lunch	11:20 AM	12:45 PM							
	Broader R&D Updates and Compliance Plan Efforts									
PG&E	R&D Project Updates	12:45 PM	1:00 PM							
Sempra	2024 R&D Overview	1:00 PM	1:45 PM							
	Break	1:45 PM	2:00 PM							
Sempra	Emissions Strategy Program Showcase	2:00 PM	2:40 PM							
CPUC/CARB	Closing and Next Steps	2:40 PM	2:45 PM							

Questions?

- Click the hand next to your name in the participant list
- The host will call on your name when it is your turn to speak
- Or, type question into the chat





Review of the 2024 Joint Report

Natural Gas Leak Abatement Program 2025 CPUC Winter Workshop February 12, 2025



Background

- •The 2024 Joint Report is the tenth Joint Report prepared by CPUC and CARB, as required by SB 1371.
- •The Report presents total industry emissions and the systemwide leak rate.
- •CPUC issued data request and reporting template on March 29, 2024.
- •All gas companies submitted the 2023 data on June 14.
- •The list of questions sent to utilities in August required minimal correction of the initial submittals.
- •CPUC/SPD sent out three approval letters in September and October for the 2015 Baseline Adjustments.



Total 2023 Statewide Natural Gas Emissions

- •The 2023 total statewide NG emissions are about 3,176 MMscf:
 - 2% lower than the 2022 emissions
- D.17-06-015 targets 40%
 emissions reduction by
 2030 from 2015 baseline
 - Total 2023 emissions for all utilities showed a 34% reduction from baseline

Table 1: Total Statewide Natural Gas Emissions Reported Under SB 1371

2015		2022** 2023		2015 Bas 2023 C		2022 - 2023 YOY Change		
Sector Emissions	Baseline*	2022**	2023	MMscf, MMT CO2e	% Change	MMscf, MMT CO2e	% Change	
Volume of Natural Gas (MMscf)	4,795	3,236	3,176	(1,619)	(34%)	(60)	(2%)	
Mass Equivalent, 100-Yr GWP, AR 4 (MMT CO2e)	2.15	1.45	1.42	(0.72)	(34%)	(0.03)	(2%)	
Mass Equivalent, 20-Yr GWP, AR 4 (MMT CO2e)	6.18	4.17	4.10	(2.09)	(34%)	(0.08)	(2%)	



2023 Natural Gas Emissions by Utility

•D.19-08-020 restricts rate recovery beginning 2025, for emissions greater than 20% below the 2015 baseline for PG&E and SoCalGas.

PG&E: 38% reduction from the baseline

SoCalGas: 36% reduction from the baseline

Table 5: Total Natural Gas Emissions by Gas Company

Entity	2015 Baseline		2022		2023		2015 Baseline to 2023 Change		2022-2023 YOY Change	
,	Mscf	% Total	Mscf	% Total	Mscf	% Total	Mscf	% Change	Mscf	% Change
Pacific Gas & Electric	2,204,823	46%	1,490,564	46%	1,367,005	43%	(837,818)	(38%)	(123,559)	(8%)
Southern California Gas	2,057,487	43%	1,249,680	39%	1,311,294	41%	(746,193)	(36%)	61,614	5%
San Diego Gas & Electric	285,355	6%	250,505	8%	258,754	8%	(26,601)	(9%)	8,249	3%
Southwest Gas	214,307	4%	229,905	7%	218,187	7%	3,880	2%	(11,718)	(5%)
Wild Goose Storage	24,003	0.50%	7,392	0.23%	7,149	0.23%	(16,854)	(70%)	(243)	(3%)
Gill Ranch Storage	3,636	0.08%	4,368	0.13%	4,309	0.14%	673	18%	(59)	(1%)
Lodi Gas Storage	3,919	0.08%	2,494	0.08%	8,114	0.26%	4,195	107%	5,620	225%
Central Valley Gas Storage	806	0.02%	432	0.01%	721	0.02%	(85)	(11%)	289	67%
West Coast Gas	700	0.01%	257	0.01%	204	0.01%	(496)	(71%)	(53)	(21%)
Alpine Natural Gas	6	<0.01%	275	0.01%	263	0.01%	257	>100%	(12)	(4%)
Total	4,795,042	100%	3,235,872	100%	3,176,000	100%	(1,619,042)	(34%)	(59,872)	(2%)



Review of System Categories with Emission Decreases

- 91 MMscf decrease in Transmission Pipelines, mainly from Blowdowns
- 37 MMscf decrease in Distribution
 Mains and Services was mainly from
 Blowdowns, in Component Leaks, and
 Compressor emissions.
- 60 MMscf decrease in Total emissions mainly due to decreases in categories for Transmission Pipelines and Distribution Mains and Services.

Table 2: Total Natural Gas Emissions by System Category

System	2015 Baseline				202	23	2015 Baseline to 2023 Change		2022 – 2023 YOY Change	
Category	MMscf	% Total	MMscf	% Total	MMscf	% Total	MMscf	% Change	MMscf	% Change
Transmission Pipeline	589	12%	208	6%	117	4%	(472)	(80%)	(91)	(44%)
Transmission M&R Station	777	16%	705	22%	714	22%	(63)	(8%)	9	1%
Transmission Compressor Station	187	4%	96	3%	113	4%	(74)	(40%)	17	18%
Distribution Mains & Services	1,472	31%	925	29%	888	28%	(584)	(40%)	(37)	(4%)
Distribution Metering & Regulating Stations	284	6%	269	8%	265	8%	(19)	(7%)	(3)	(1%)
Customer Meters	1,133	24%	901	28%	930	29%	(204)	(18%)	29	3%
Underground Storage	353	7%	133	4%	149	5%	(203)	(58%)	17	13%
Total	4,795	100%	3,236	100%	3,176	100%	(1,619)	(34%)	(60)	(2%)



Review of System Categories with Emission Increases

- 17 MMscf increase in Transmission Compressor Stations, mainly from Blowdowns.
- 29 MMscf increase in Customer
 Meters included a 71 MMscf increase by
 one utility, and a 41 MMscf decrease
 by another utility.
- 17 MMscf increase in Underground Storage mainly due to increases in Component Leaks and Compressor Emissions.

Table 2: Total Natural Gas Emissions by System Category

System	2015 Baseline				2023		2015 Baseline to 2023 Change		2022 – 2023 YOY Change	
Category	MMscf	% Total	MMscf	% Total	MMscf	% Total	MMscf	% Change	MMscf	% Change
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Total	4,795	100%	3,236	100%	3,176	100%	(1,619)	(34%)	(60)	(2%)



System-wide Leak Rate

- Five of the six throughput categories were similar to 2022.
- The System-wide Leak Rate was also similar.
- The System-wide Leak Rate has decreased from 2015 due to the decrease in the total emissions.

Table 4: System-wide Throughput, Emissions, and Leak Rate - 2015, 2022, and 2023

	Natural Gas Volume (MMscf)			
Throughput Category	2015 Baseline	2022	2023	
Total Storage Annual Volume of Injections to Storage	199,522	144,321	242,960	
Total Storage Annual Volume of Gas Used by the Gas Department	N/A	1,687	2,114	
Total Transmission Annual Volume of Gas Used by the Gas Department	7,717	6,185	9,934	
Total Transmission Volume of Annual Gas transported to or for Customers in state	1,832,676	1,739,384	1,792,246	
Total Transmission Volume of Annual Gas transported for Customers out of state	16,775	14,894	15,086	
Total Distribution Annual Volume of Gas Used by the Gas Department	261	540	647	
Total Throughput	2,056,950	1,964,547	2,062,987	
Total Emissions	4,795	3,236	3,176	
System-wide Leak Rate $\left(\frac{Total\ Emissions}{Total\ Throughput}\right)$	0.23%	0.16%	0.15%	



Approved 2015 Baseline Adjustments

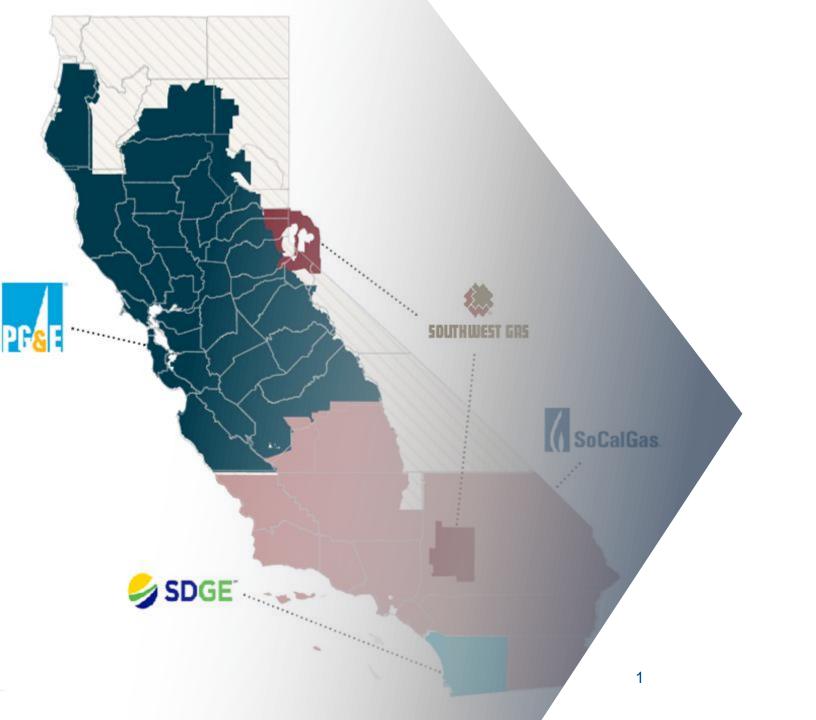
- The CPUC/SPD approved adjustments to the 2015 baseline emissions on September 23, 2024, for SoCalGas, on September 26, 2024, for Lodi Gas Storage, and on October 22, 2024, for San Diego Gas and Electric.
- All approvals are listed in Appendix A in the 2024 Joint Report.

	Natural Gas Volume (MSCF)			
SPD approved the following adjusted 2015 baseline emissions	Original 2015 Baseline	Adjusted 2015 Baseline Emissions		
Southern California Gas, Component Fugitive Leaks in Transmission Compressor Stations	10,784	13,650		
Southern California Gas, Pipeline Leaks in Distribution Main and Services Pipeline	576,261	719,581		
Southern California Gas, Meter Leaks in Customer Meters	415,362	726,154		
Southern California Gas, Compressor and Component Fugitive Leaks in Underground Storage	21,989	30,474		
Lodi Gas Storage, Compressor Vented Emissions in Underground Storage	99	2,383		
Lodi Gas Storage, Component Vented Emissions in Underground Storage	1,144	0		
Lodi Gas Storage, Compressor and Component Fugitive Leaks in Underground Storage	0	1,144		
San Diego Gas and Electric, Component Fugitive Leaks in Transmission Compressor Stations	2,919	3,512		



Summary

- CPUC and CARB followed the process used in previous years to compile the 2024 Joint Report.
- D.17-06-015 implements the State's goal of reducing the 2015 Baseline natural gas emissions by 40% by 2030
 - The total self-reported emissions for all utilities in 2023 has shown a 34% reduction from the 2015 Baseline.
- •D.19-08-020 adopts a restriction on rate recovery beginning 2025, for emissions greater than 20% below the 2015 Baseline levels for PG&E and SoCalGas.
 - Both PG&E and SoCalGas are exceeding this target.
- CPUC and CARB aim to finalize all template revisions by March 31, 2025, to avoid sending multiple reporting template updates.
- •The proposed changes to the 2025 reporting template will be described in a later presentation.



PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS TO APPENDIX 2 & 5 EMISSION FACTORS

February 12, 2025





Introduction

Background:

- Emission factors for Appendix 2 Transmission M&R Stations and Appendix 5 Distribution M&R Stations established pursuant to Senate Bill 1371 (SB 1371) and CPUC Decision 17-06-015 are currently estimated using the 2016 EPA Mandatory Reporting of Greenhouse Gases Rule (MRR) population-based or leaker-based emission factors (EFs).
- These EFs have recently been updated in an amendment published at 89 FR 42325, 42327 on May 14, 2024.
- To align emissions reporting across regulatory agencies, this presentation proposes adopting these new emission factors for M&R Station emissions reporting.

Proposed Changes - Appendix 2 Transmission M&R Stations

- Switch from facility population-based EFs to leaker-based EFs for fugitive station emissions and population-based EFs for vented station emissions from pneumatic devices.
 - These leaker-based EFs would be used for calculating "Component Fugitive Leaks" and "Component Vented Emissions" as Emission Source Categories to estimate current year and baseline emissions.

These leaker-based EFs for fugitive emissions would come either from Table W-4 of Subpart W of Part 98 or be derived from Company-Specific leak

sampling data.

Onshore Natural Gas Transmission	Emission Factor				
Compression	scf/hour/component	Mscf/day/component			
Leaker Emission Factors - Non-Compre	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,				
Valve	6.42	0.154			
Connector	5.71	0.137			
Open-Ended Line	11.27	0.270			
Pressure Relief Valve	2.01	0.048			
Meter or Instrument	2.93	0.070			
Other	4.1	0.098			









Proposed Changes - Appendix 2 Transmission M&R Stations

Similarly, the population-based EFs for vented emissions from pneumatic devices would come either from Table W-1 of Subpart W of Part 98 or be derived from Company-Specific emission sampling data.

Onshore Natural Gas Transmission	Emission Factor								
Compression	scf/hour/component	Mscf/day/component							
Deputation Emission Factors - Proumation	Davida Vanta and Draumatic	Dumpa Cas Carvias							
Population Emission Factors - Pneumatic									
Continuous Low Bleed	6.8	0.163							









Proposed Changes - Appendix 5 Transmission M&R Stations

Update current leaker-based EFs for fugitive station emissions using Table W-6 of Subpart W of Part 98 in the amendment published at 89 FR 42327 on May 14, 2024.

Natural Gas Distribution		
	scf/hour/component	Mscf/day/component
Leaker Emission Factors - Transmission-Di	stribution Transfer Station C	omponents, Gas Service
Connector	1.69	0.041
Block Valve	0.557	0.013
Control Valve	9.34	0.224
Pressure Relief Valve	0.27	0.006
Orifice Meter	0.212	0.005
Regulator	0.772	0.019
Open-ended Line	26.131	0.627







Questions?









Distribution Main and Services Super Emitter (SE) Program Update

February 2025

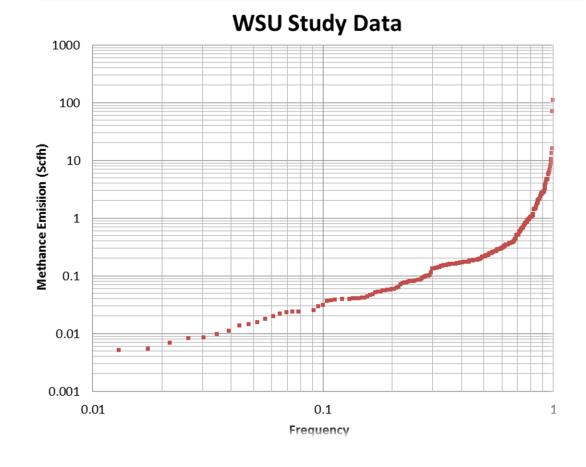




The Concept of Super Emitters

- Methane emissions in gas distribution systems are driven by a small number of larger leaks named Super Emitters
- Opportunity for substantially reducing methane emissions by accelerating detection (with mobile surveys) and repair of the larger leaks

Only about 2% of leaks in the distribution system were > 10 scfh but accounted for 56% of total emissions





Procedure

1. Coverage

 Drive across the entire system, including compliance survey areas

2. Thresholds

- Report indications over 5 SCFH (2025) to local teams
- Prioritize confirmed leaks greater than
 5 SCFH for accelerated repair

3. Immediate Response (IR)

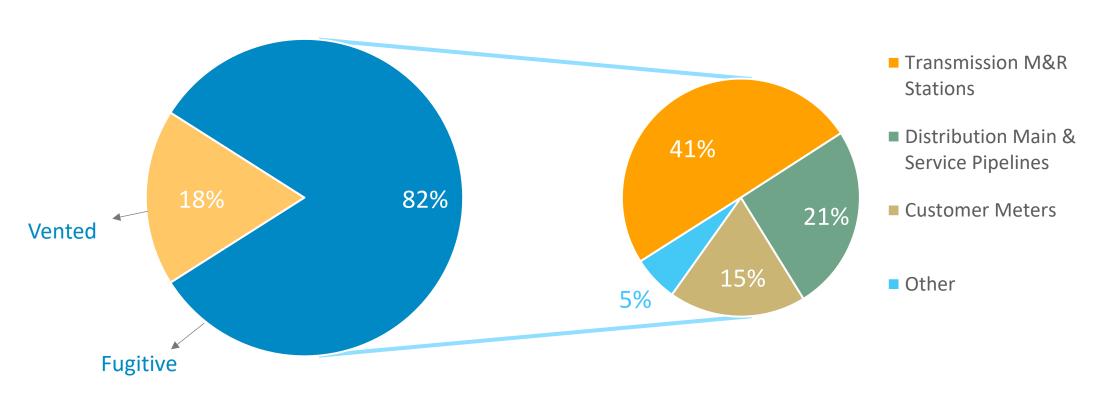
- IR threshold set at 60 SCFH
- Triggering IR requires an immediate leak survey investigation





Distribution M&S Emissions

In 2023, Emissions from Distribution M&S Accounted for 21% of Total System Emissions





Super Emitter Program Optimization Strategies

Strategies for Reducing Emissions Using Super Emitter

- Lower the Super Emitter detection threshold
- Increase super emitter program survey area
- Speed up repairs
- Conduct more frequent surveys to identify leaks earlier

$$Emission(MCF) = EF * Days Open$$

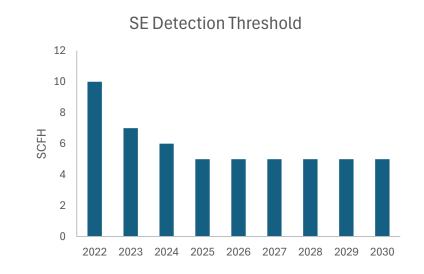
EF: Emission Factor in MCF/Day

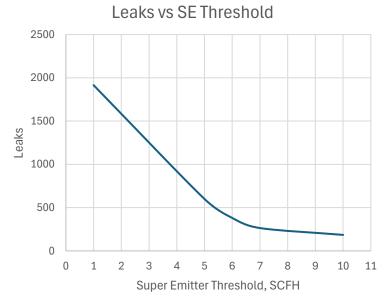
Days Open: Assumes leaks start at the beginning of the year and continue until repaired



Reducing Super Emitter Detection Threshold

- Starting in 2023, PG&E has been lowering the detection threshold for the Super Emitter survey
- Emissions savings have been achieved through:
 - More leaks are added to the accelerated detection and repair schedule
 - The average emission factor for Non-SE leaks is reduced
- 2024 Cost Effectiveness
 - Between 10 SCFH and 6 SCFH, an additional 323 leaks were identified and prioritized for repair
 - These leaks would have remained open for an average of 3 years*
 - Abatement: 270 MMSCF
 - Standard Cost Effectiveness: \$23.86/MCF





^{*} One-third of the system is surveyed each year, plus repair time for non-SE

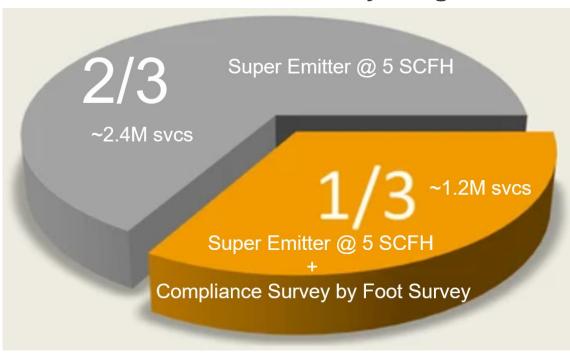


Super Emitter Survey Coverage

- Initiated in 2018, SE surveys have been conducted across approximately 70% of the system, excluding areas covered by compliance surveys
- Starting in 2024, the SE survey targets 100% system coverage
- It allows exclusion of "Super Emitter"
 Leaks when calculating emissions for
 the category of Found and Unknown
 leaks adjusted for uncertainties

Emission Factor SCFH									
SE Non-SE SE Average									
Threshold	INOII-OL	<u> </u>	Average						
5	0.61	8.63	1.49						

2025 PG&E Leak Survey Program





Future Work: Potential of Dynamic Scheduling

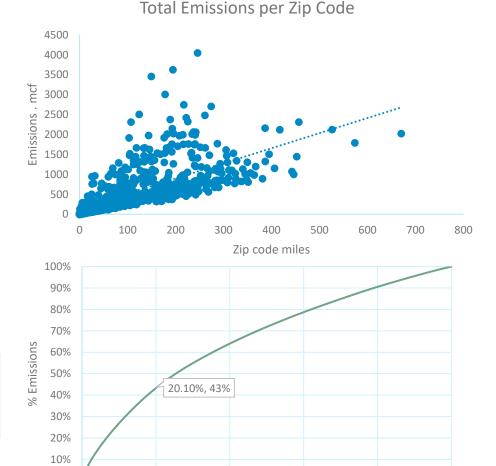
High Leak Density Area

- Survey Frequency: Semi-annual
- Days Leaking: For leaks found during the second survey, calculation is done assuming they have been leaking since the last survey date

Remaining System

- Survey Frequency: Annual
- Days Leaking: From the start of the year until the repair date

Year	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027-2030
SE Survey	7 SCFH @ 1x per year	6 SCFH @ 1x per year	5 SCFH @ 1x per year	5 SCFH @ 1x per year	5 SCFH @ 1.25x per year



40.00%

% System Miles

0.00%

20.00%

100.00%

80.00%

Thank you





Proposed Changes to the 2025 Reporting Template and Procedures

Natural Gas Leak Abatement Program
2025 CPUC Winter Workshop
February 12, 2025



Overview

Appendices 3 and 7

- Provide a note for the "Compressor and Component Fugitive Leaks" worksheets to show the formula and calculations for the Number of Days Leaking.
- Replace the "ID" header with "Quantity" in the worksheets for "Component Vented Emissions."
- Provide a note requesting that either the initials of the facility be included in the "ID" column, or the name be provided along with the zip code in the "zip code" column for the worksheets for "Compressor Vented Emissions."

Appendix 4

Review the pipelines summary worksheet and evaluate designating current fields as optional.

Appendices 4 and 6

 Include the note: "Please show the calculation for determining the total emissions. If additional worksheets are necessary, please include those to show the intermediate calculations."

Appendix 8

 Revise the header from, "Total Annual Volume of Gas Used by the Gas Department," to "Total Annual Volume of Gas Used" for the on-site usage.



Compressor and Component Fugitive Leaks

- •Appendices 3 and 7: Provide a note for the "Compressor and Component Fugitive Leaks" worksheets to show the formula and calculations for the Number of Days Leaking.
- •An additional note will be added that "The Number of Days Leaking may be more than 365 days due to including the estimation function of the leak occurring at half the number of days between the prior survey date and the discovery date."

	[Company Name], [Date Submitted]									
Rι	Rulemaking (R.) 15-01-008 to Adopt Rules and Procedures Governing Commission Regulated Natural Gas Pipelines and Facilities to Reduce Natu									
	In Response to Data Request, R15-01-008 - 2024 June Report									
	Appendix 3; Rev. 03/30/2024									
Note	s:									
Show	v the formula and	d calculations for the	Number of Days Lea	aking.						
The	Number of Days	Leaking may be mor	re than 365 days due	to including the est	imation function at	half the number o	of days between the	prior survey date a	nd the discovery date.	
Use	a formula-derived	l value with the form	ula used in the Ann	ual Emissions colun	nn. Do not use a co	py and paste-as-va	alue.			
At tl	ne end of Annual	Emissions Column,	add a summation to	tal in a cell for a colı	ımn total, and then	highlight orange.				
The emissions captured on this tab represent the emissions associated unintentional leaks that if repaired would not leaking. If the component is releasing gas or "bleeding" as a result										
Pleas	se include emissio	ns from leaks found	with concentrations	below 10,000ppm, a	and add them in the	total emissions co	lumn. Please use th	e associated emissio	n factors provided in A	
Tra	nsmission Cor	mpressor Statior	n: Compressor a	nd Component	Fugitive Leaks	12/31/23	01/01/23			
ID	Geographic Location	Facility/Device Type	Emission Factor: Mscf/day/dev	Manufacturer	Discovery Date (MM/DD/YY)	Repair Date (MM/DD/YY)	Prior Survey Date (MM/DD/YY)	Number of Days Leaking	Annual Emissions (Mscf)	



Component Vented Emissions

•Appendices 3 and 7: Replace the current header of "ID" with "Quantity" in the worksheets for Component Vented Emissions.

•Proposed:

10	Transmission Compressor Sta							
11	ID	Geographic Location	Device Type	Bleed Rate	Manufacturer	Engineering or Manufacturer's based Estimate of Emissions	Annual Emissions (Mscf)	Explanatory Notes / Comments
12	Moisture Analyzers	Facility Name	P	L	not available	0.048	18	
13	Moisture Analyzers	Facility Name	P	L	not available	0.048	18	
14	Moisture Analyzers	Facility Name	P	L	not available	0.048	18	
15	Moisture Analyzers	Facility Name	P	L	not available	0.048	18	



10	Transmission Compressor Sta							
11	Quantity	Geographic Location	Device Type	Bleed Rate	Manufacturer	Engineering or Manufacturer's based Estimate of Emissions	Annual Emissions (Mscf)	Explanatory Notes / Comments
12	4	Facility Name	P	L	not available	0.048	18	Moisture Analyzers



Compressor Vented Emissions

•Appendices 3 and 7: Provide a note requesting that either the initials of the facility be included in the "ID" column **or** the name be provided along with the zip code in the "Geographic Location" column for the worksheets for "Compressor Vented Emissions."

Current:

5	ID	Geographic Location			Number of Cylinders	
7						
3	Unit 1	Example	R	С	4	
9	Unit 1	Example	R	С	4	
)	Unit 2	Example	R	С	4	
1	Unit 2	Example	R	С	4	
2 r						

Proposed:

26	ID	Geographic Location	Compressor Type	Prime Mover	Number of Cylinders	
27						
28	Station AbbreviationUnit 1	Station NameZip code	R	С	4	
29	Station AbbreviationUnit 2	Station NameZip code	R	С	4	
30	Station AbbreviationUnit 1	Station NameZip code	R	С	4	
31	Station AbbreviationUnit 2	Station NameZip code	R	С	4	
32	r					
33						
34						
	< > Storage Le	eaks & Emissions	Compressor Vented Emissions			



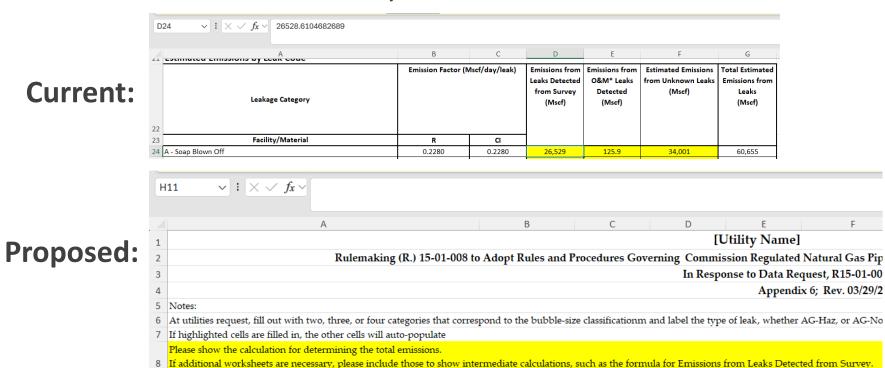
Distribution Mains and Services, Unknown Leaks

•Appendix 4: Include the (highlighted) note: "Please show the calculation for determining the total emissions. If additional worksheets are necessary, please include those to show intermediate calculations, such as the formula for the Risk-Based Survey Method."



Meter Leaks, Leak Count, Leaker

•Appendix 6: Include the (highlighted) note: "Please show the calculation for determining the total emissions. If additional worksheets are necessary, please include those to show intermediate calculations, such as the formula for Emissions from Leaks Detected from Survey."





Distribution Mains and Services, Summary

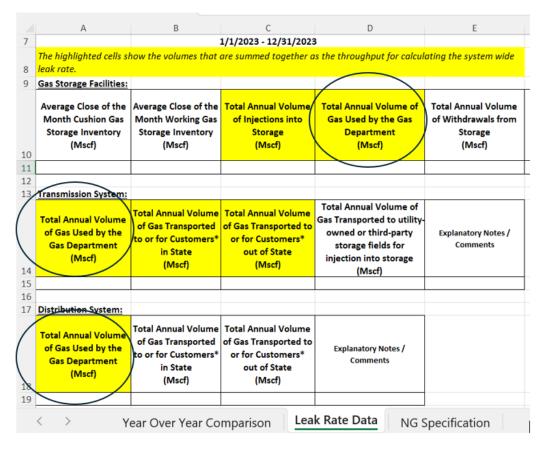
- Appendix 4: Designate fields (highlighted) as optional
 - A few utilities are not using material-based emission factors
 - This information is not analyzed by CARB and CPUC staff for the Joint Reports

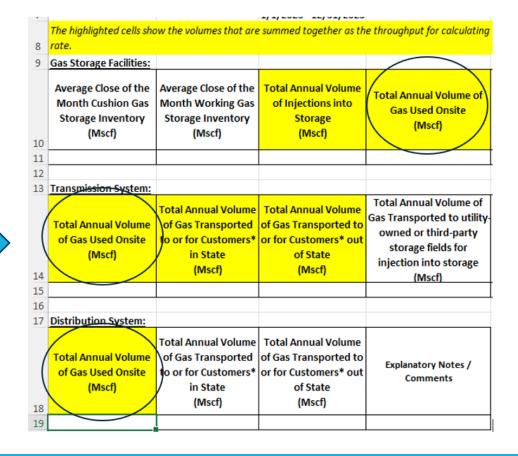
	Count of Leaks Carried over from Prior Year	Count of Leaks Discovered in the Year of Interest	Count of Leaks Repaired in the Year of Interest	Average Days to Repair Leaks	Count of Estimated Unsurveyed Leaks in the Year of Interest	Count of Remaining Leaks at final day of the Year of Interest (12/31/23)	Emissions from Leaks Carried over from Prior Year.	Emissions from Leaks Discovered in the Year of Interest.	Emissions from Estimated Unsurveyed Leaks in the Year of Interest	Total Emissions in the Year of Interest [Mscf of Natural Gas]
Grade 1						-			NA	-
Grade 2						-			NA	-
Grade 3						-			NA	-
Graded Leak Total	·	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
3										
Above Ground Hazardous						-				
Above Ground Non-Hazardous						-				
Above Ground Non-Hazardous										
i Minor						-				
7 AG Total	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total of All Leaks	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
•										
) Main/Plastic										
Main/Unprotected Steel										
Main/Protected Steel										
Service/Plastic										
Service/Unprotected Steel										
Service/Protected Steel										
Service/Copper										
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0



Leak Rate Data

•Appendix 8: Discuss a revised name to the header, "Total Annual Volume of Gas Used by the Gas Department" that does not include the phrase "by the Gas Department" for the on-site usage.







Key Dates for the 2025 NGLA Reporting

- •Prior to March 31: CPUC and CARB Staff will correspond with utilities about finalizing the reporting template changes mentioned in these slides.
- •March 31: CPUC will send reporting template to gas companies
- •June 16: Emissions reports from gas companies due to CPUC
- •July: CPUC and CARB will send a list of follow-up questions and comments to gas companies
- August 29: CPUC and CARB Staff have an internal deadline to finalize data.
- November 14: CPUC will send the Draft Joint Report to gas companies for review
- December 31: CPUC will publish the Final Joint Report

R&D Project Updates

Gas Research & Development

February 2025





Meter Set Assembly (MSA) Emissions

BP-21 LLFA Tape Pilot Ph2

LLFA tape is a self-adhering silicone-based tape that allows for quick repairs without breaking down the meter set

- Can reduce emissions
- Enhance safety
- Reduce operational costs
- Kicked off a larger scale pilot in conjunction with GTI Energy in 2024 (OTD 5.24.Y.2) due to promising results from a small, internal, and bay area centralized pilot
- PG&E plans to install LLFA tape on 100 non-hazardous MSA leaks in Q1 2025 throughout the PG&E territory







Meter Set Assembly (MSA) Emissions

BP-22 Jomar Male Tailpiece Demo

The Jomar male tailpiece would reduce MSA high-pressure leak points

- Benefit stopping leaks before they occur
- A large amount of leaks on the current meter set design form on the pipe nipple used to connect the female riser valve and regulator
- Changing to a male threaded meter valve eliminates 1 threaded connection below the regulator, reducing potential leak points on the high-pressure side by 50%



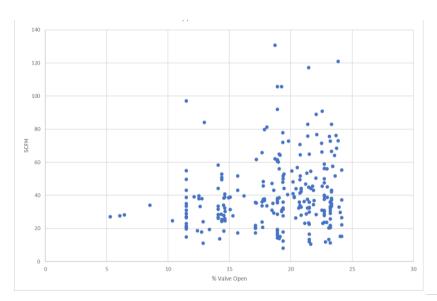


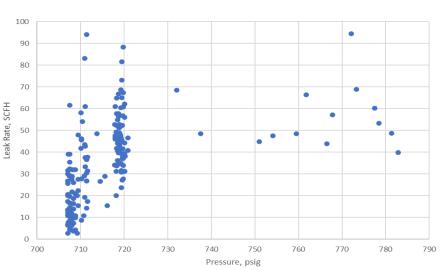
Transmission M&R Emissions

BP-20 QLM Lidar Based Camera

In 2024, PG&E conducted a trial with the QLM camera for continuous monitoring of 10 intermittent bleed transmission M&R stations of varying complexity over 24-hour periods

- CPUC attended a demonstration at the Vernalis Reg Station
- No clear correlation between valve position (controller modulation) and vent rate
- No clear correlation between upstream pressure and vent rate





Site Number	Measured Components	Emitting Components	Duration
Station 1	4	0	~ 24 hours
Station 2	7	0	~ 24 hours
Station 3	3	0	~ 24 hours
Station 4	8	3	~ 24 hours
Station 5	12	0	~ 24 hours
Station 6	22	3	~ 24 hours
Station 7	19	3	~ 24 hours
Station 8	8	0	~ 24 hours
Station 9	7	2	~ 24 hours
Station 10	4	4	~ 24 hours







Underground Storage Emissions

BP-18 Continuous Monitoring of UGS

PG&E currently conducts daily wellhead leak surveys. A continuous monitoring approach can improve safety, reduce emissions, and reduce costs

- In 2024 PG&E completed ph1 in conjunction with GTI Energy (7.24.c)
- The pilot consisted of a trial of 4
 different devices on a single wellhead
 to validate the sensors technical
 specs with respect to the California
 Oil and Gas Rule requirements
- In 2025, PG&E plans to conduct a larger scale pilot incorporating lessons learned from ph1 to increase sensor probability of detection and integrate into the control system





DM&S/Transmission Emissions

BP-20 Bridger Photonics Aerial Leak Detection and Quantification

Bridger Photonics helicopter mounted Gas Mapping LiDAR can quicken leak detection, assist in localization, and help quantify emissions

- Completed evaluation of Bridger Photonics GML system with NYSEARCH in Q4 2024
- Bridger provided plume heights to assist in determining pipeline gas vs gas from customer connected equipment
- A final report is currently being generated





DM&S/Transmission Emissions

BP-17 Satelytics' Aerial Leak Detection

Leak detection via satellite can be faster and safer than traditional leak survey methods. Some limitations include too much cloud coverage and inability to task satellites immediately

- PG&E along with NYSEARCH (project T-796) evaluated Satelytics' Aerial System for Methane Detection and Emission Quantification
- PG&E, NYSEARCH, and Satelytics have one additional scan planned for Q1 2025 to determine POD





DM&S/Transmission Emissions

BP-17 Aerial Leak Detection via Drones

Drone Systems can quicken detection, improve localization, and be used for emergency response surveys when helicopters are not available and walking and mobile survey deems unsafe

- PG&E tested various LiDAR sensors and an OGI sensor on PG&E drones using controlled gas releases to survey hard-toaccess areas
- Two sensors provided promising results, U10 and BLV-CH4









Thank you





Appendix – Best Practice List

Category	Best Practice	Title	Main Points
	BP 15	Gas Distribution Leak Surveys	Move from 4-year to 3-year leak survey. Company can propose new technology (e.g. mobile survey)
	BP 16	Special Leak Surveys	Predictive leak analytics for supplemental special leak survey programs
	BP 17	Enhanced Methane Detection	Use of enhanced methane detection practices mobile methane detection, aerial leak detection
Leak Detection	BP 18	Stationary Methane Detectors	Use of stationary methane detectors at compressor stations, storage facilities, M&R stations
	BP 19	Above Ground Leak Surveys	To include in Compliance plan, frequent leak detection and data collection and above ground stations and facilities including use of optical gas imaging and other methods.
	BP20	Leak Quantification & Geographic Evaluation/Tracking	Improved quantification and geographic tracking of leaks.
Leak Repairs	BP 21	"Find It Fix It Policy": Leak Repair Timeline and Backlogs	To specify leak repair times that exceed the minimum regulatory requirement and to eliminate backlogs. To require TLA leaks to be fixed immediately. Also suggests that leaks have to be repaired within 3 years of discovery.

Category	Best Practice	Title	Main Points
	BP 22	Pipe Fitting Specifications	Revise pipe fitting specifications to ensure higher tolerance pipe threads and if necessary, propose fitting replacement program
	BP 23	Prevent/Minimize/Stop Fugitive & Vented Methane Emissions (Catastrophic Releases, High-Bleed Pneumatics, Blowdowns, etc.)	Replacement of high-bleed pneumatic devices to low-bleed. Reduction of emissions from blowdowns.
Prevention	BP 24	Dig-Ins / Public Education Program	Expand education program to broader audience and excavation contractors
	BP 25	Dig-Ins / Company Monitors for All Excavations near Transmission Lines	Provide company monitors to witness excavations near gas transmission lines
	BP 26	Dig-Ins / Repeat Offenders	Procedures to keep track of dig-ins in the last 5 years to identify repeat cases. Follow-up with offenders to include training and visits.





R&D OVERVIEW

February 12, 2025



R&D Overview

- » Provide a brief overview highlighting
 - Key project work during the previous Compliance Plan period (2023-2024) and,
 - Planned projects for the current Compliance Plan period (2025-2026).
- » List of projects covered in this presentation
 - Passive Mobile Methane Detection
 - Aerial Methane Mapping Cost-Effectiveness Improvements
 - Development of Cost-Effectiveness Framework
 - Customer Meter Set Emissions Data Analysis
 - Meter Set Assembly Failure Mode Analysis
 - Sealant Performance for Storage Applications



Project Spotlight - Enhanced Methane Detection



- Fleet-based Passive Mobile Methane Detection
 - Passively detect methane emissions from normal vehicle operations and utilize data analytics to compile methane readings and potentially identify leak sources
 - Vendor has an agreement with United States Postal Service (USPS)
 - Vendor installation of ~30 units on USPS trucks within SoCalGas territory planned for Q1 2025
 - Data collection and analysis planned throughout 2025



Project Spotlight – Aerial Methane Mapping Cost-Effectiveness Improvements

- » Ferry Scans
 - Gather sensor data during helicopter ferry to planned polygon flight area
 - Early R&D pilot scans indicate \$10/MCF cost effectiveness potential
- » Incomplete Combustion Emission Reduction Verification
 - Develop process for validating and quantifying emission reductions from customer incomplete combustion
 - Provide field investigation crew with equipment to perform measurements before and after repair
 - Proof-of-concept study in progress
- » Improved Advanced Meter Algorithms
 - Use data from verified customer leak detections to improve Advanced Meter Analytics
 - Current project results show potential 95% true positive detection rate with 33% false positive rate.
 - Next step is to validate performance through small district pilots
- » Alternative Aerial Platforms
 - Lower flight altitude platforms can lead to order of magnitude improvement in minimum detection limits
 - Proof-of-concept study to be conducted in 2025-2026 Compliance Plan period



Project Spotlight – Cost-Effectiveness Framework

Develop Methods to Quantify Ratepayer Benefits

- Reduced GHG Emissions: Climate and Health Benefits
- Improved Air Quality/Reduced Criteria Pollutant Emissions
- Improved Public and Employee Safety: Benefits of Reduced Serious Incidents
- Improved Operational Efficiency
- Improved Reliability
- Improved Affordability

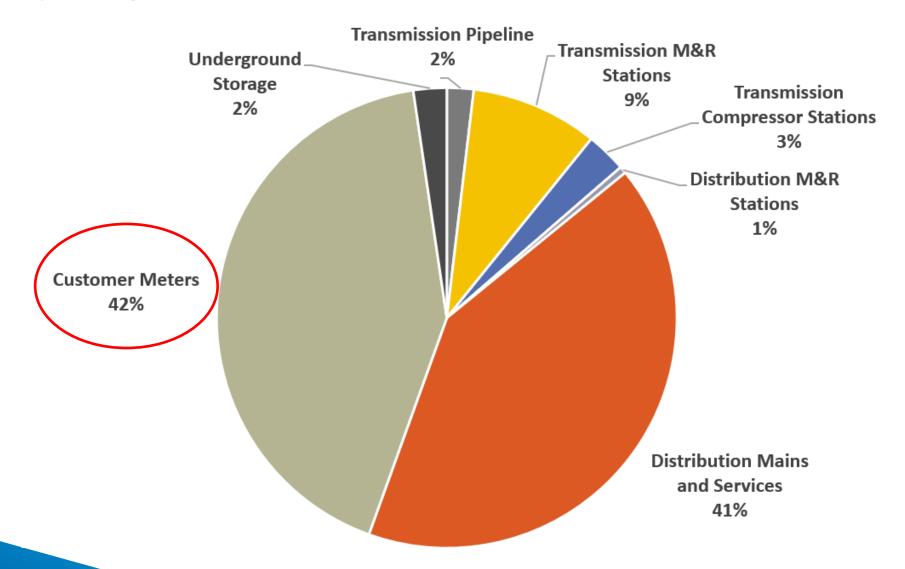
Incorporate Methods to Monetize Benefits from

- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- Office of Management and Budget
- U.S. Government Accountability Office
- U.S. Department of Transportation
- U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, and other sources

$$= \sum_{YR_{h}=YR_{1}}^{YR_{T}} \left[\left\{ \sum_{i=1}^{N_{RCI_{B}}} \left(\sum_{j=1}^{N_{LC\,B,j}} \left(HR_{YR_{h},i,j,B} * LR_{YR_{h},j} \right) + ODC_{YR_{h},i,B} + TPC_{INT_{YR_{h},i,B}} \right. \right. \\ \left. - INC_{YR_{h},i,B} \right\} - \sum_{i=1}^{N_{RCI_{Pjt}}} \left(\sum_{j=1}^{N_{LC\,Pjt,j}} \left(HR_{YR_{h},i,j,Pjt} * LR_{YR_{h},j} \right) + ODC_{YR_{h},i,Pjt} + TPC_{INT_{YR_{h},i,Pjt}} - INC_{YR_{h},i,Pjt} \right) \right\} * \frac{1}{\left(1 + r_{YR_{h}} \right)^{(YR_{h} - YR_{PV})}}$$



Project Spotlight – Customer Meter Set Emissions





Customer Meter Emission Factor Sampling

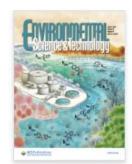
System-wide random sampling across SoCalGas territory

- Collected leak flow rate samples of over 400 MSA leaks
- Collected 60 Non-leaker MSA bubble categories and flow rate measurements across over 200 non-leaking meters sampled (~29%)

ENERGY AND CLIMATE | April 5, 2024

Development of Company-Specific Emission Factors with Confidence Intervals for Natural Gas Customer Meters in Southern California

Edward Newton*, Daniel Ersoy, Erik Rodriguez*, and Brian K. Lamb



Environmental Science & Technology

Cite this: Environ. Sci. Technol. 2024, 58, 16, 6954-6963

https://doi.org/10.1021/acs.est.3c10316

Published April 5, 2024 ✓

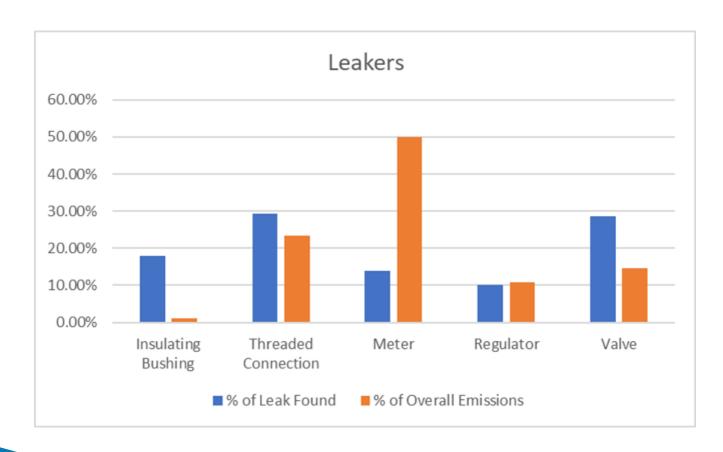
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Data Analysis - Leakers

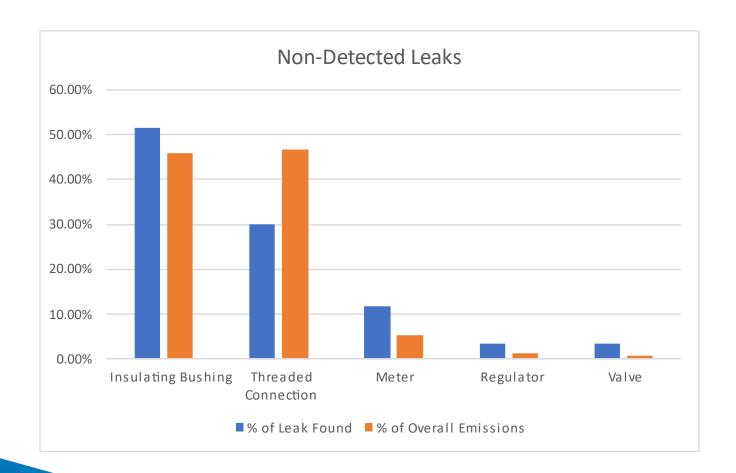


Component	% of Leaks
Threaded Connections	30%
Valve	29%
Insulating Bushing	18%
Meter	13%
Regulator	10%

Component	% of Emissions
Meter	50%
Valve	25%
Regulator	18%
Threaded Connections	5%
Insulating Bushing	2%



Data Analysis – Non-Detected Leakers

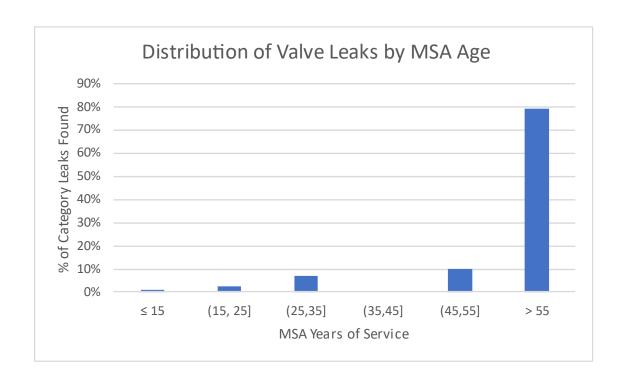


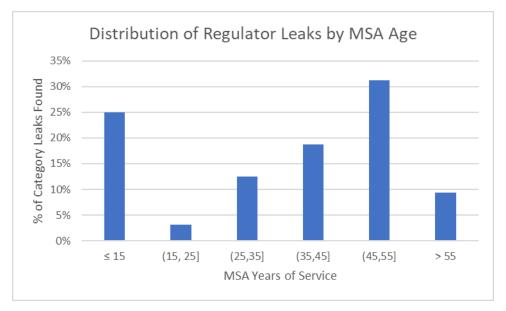
Component	% of Leaks
Insulating Bushing	52%
Threaded Connections	30%
Meter	12%
Regulator	3%
Valve	3%

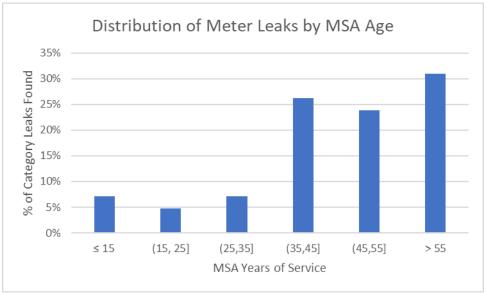
Component	% of Emissions
Threaded Connections	47%
Insulating Bushing	46%
Meter	5%
Regulator	1%
Valve	1%



Data Analysis – Meter Age Correlations

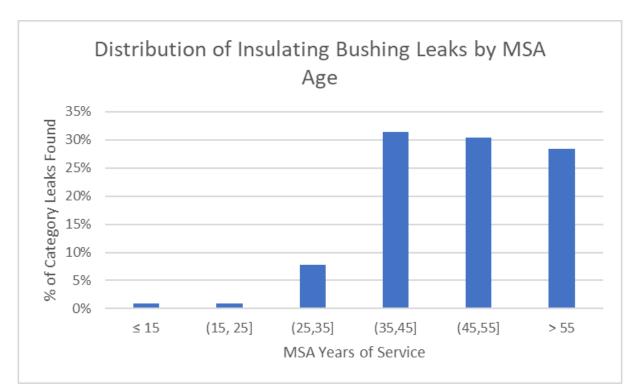


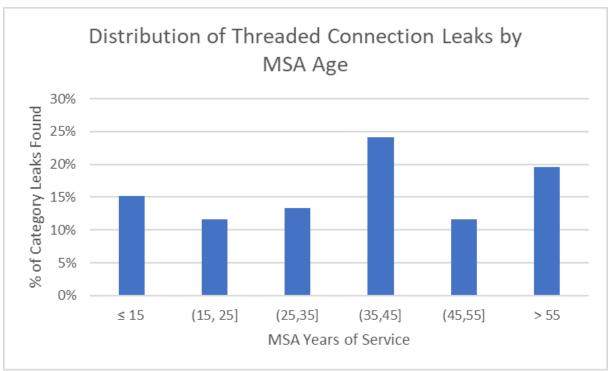






Data Analysis – Meter Age Correlations





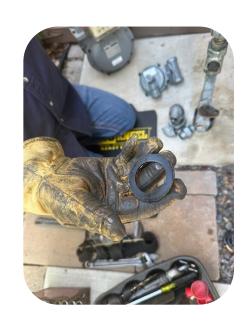


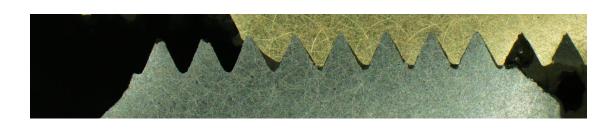
Project Spotlight – Meter Set Assembly Failure Mode Analysis

Collected samples of leaking components from the field for failure mode analysis in the lab

- 1. Determine root cause of failures
- 2. Develop remedy for root causes











Project Spotlight – Meter Set Assembly Design Modifications



Evaluate potential improvements to customer meter sets

- Ultrasonic Meter with pressure sensing and remote shut-off (33% of emissions)
- Zero emissions regulator (12% of emissions)



Project Spotlight – Meter Set Assembly Design Modifications

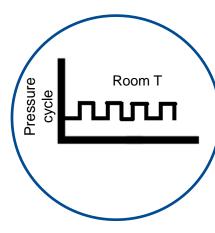


Evaluate potential improvements to customer meter sets

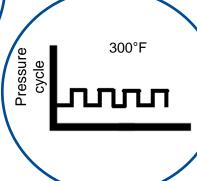
- Smaller form of ultrasonic meter allows for fewer threaded connections within the meter set assembly (21% of emissions)
- Service valves that do not require lubrication (16% of emissions) with built-in insulation (18% of emissions)



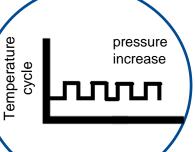
Project Spotlight – Sealant Performance for Storage Applications



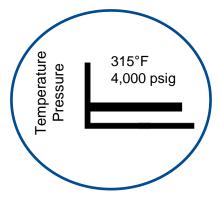
Part 1 Pressure Cycling: Room temperature test with pressure cycle between 400 psig and 3400 psig.



Part 2 High Temperature Pressure Cycling: Hold test bath at 300°F with pressure cycle between 400 psig and 3400 psig.



Part 3 High Temperature Cycling: Temperature cycle between 350 °F and 450 °F with step increase in pressure from 200 psig to 4,000 psig.



Part 4 Steady State: Hold temperature at 315°F and pressure at 4,000 psig for 5+ months.



Test Assembly

1" Schedule 160, Class 6000 Components:

3 nipples

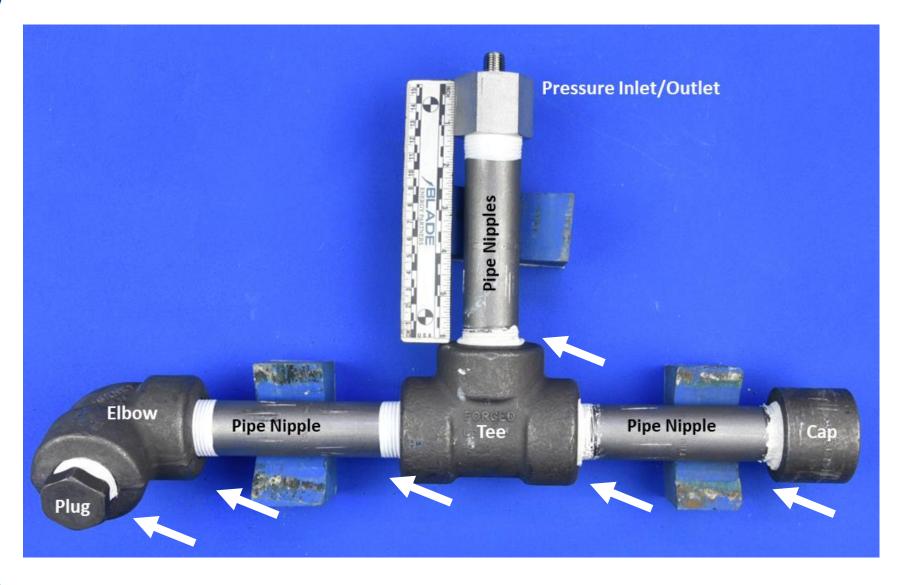
1 tee

1 elbow

1 plug

1 cap

6 sealant connections per test.





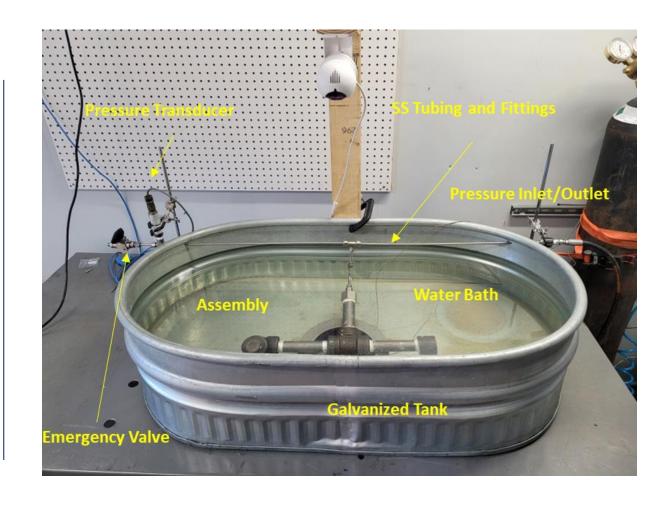
Test System – Parts 1, 2 and 3



Pass/Fail Procedure

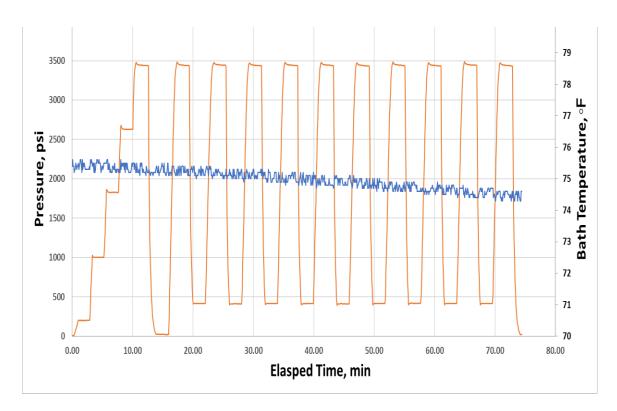
- 1. If a sealant fails once, then assemble a new test assembly with new parts and new sealant and test.
- 2. If a sealant fails twice, it is removed from the test plan.
- 3. If a sealant passes on the second try, it moves on.

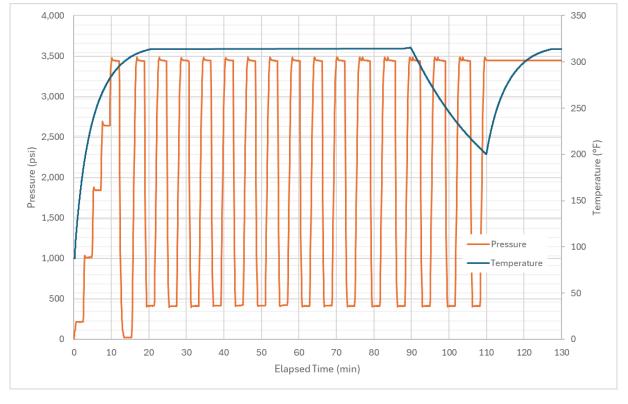
For Parts 2 and 3 (high temperature) the water was replaced with silicone oil.





Results – Parts 1 and 2





BLUE: TEMPERATURE (ROOM)

ORANGE: PRESSURE (STEP THEN CYCLE)

Test Duration: ~75 minutes

BLUE: TEMPERATURE (ROOM - 300°F - 200°F - 300°F)

ORANGE: PRESSURE (STEP THEN CYCLE THEN HOLD)

Test Duration: ~130 minutes

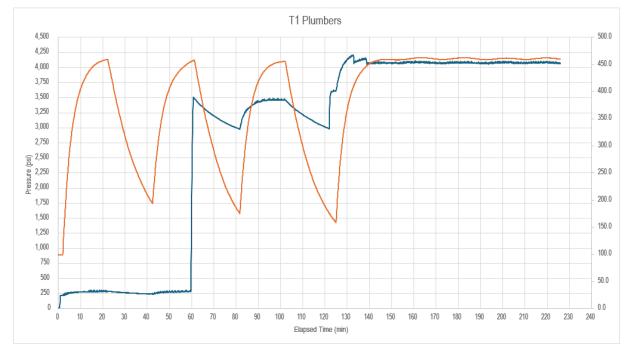


Results – Parts 1 and 2

SEALANT	RESULT
P1	both attempts fail within 10 minutes
P2	both attempts fail within 10 minutes
P3	both attempts fail within 10 minutes
P4	1st attempt fail within 10 minutes 2nd attempt fail after 3 cycles to 3400 psig
P5	both attempts fail within 10 minutes
P6	1st attempt fail within 10 minutes 2nd attempt fail after 11 cycles to 3400 psig
T1	pass
T2	pass
Т3	pass
T4	pass
T5	pass
T6	pass
T7	pass
Т8	pass
Т9	pass
T10	pass
T11	pass
T12	pass



Results - Part 3



BLUE: PRESSURE (250 - 3000 - 4000 PSIG)

ORANGE: TEMPERATURE

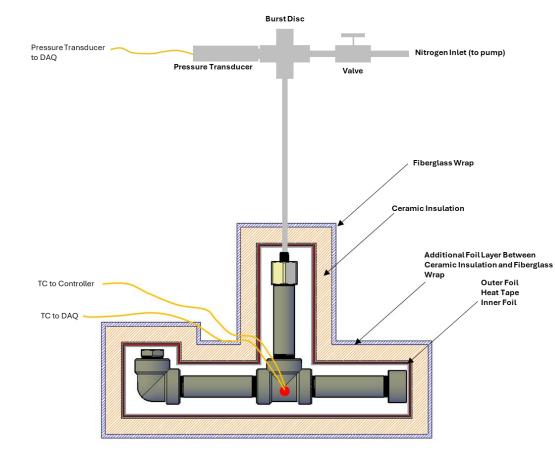
(ROOM - 450°F - 200°F CYCLE THEN HOLD AT 450°F)

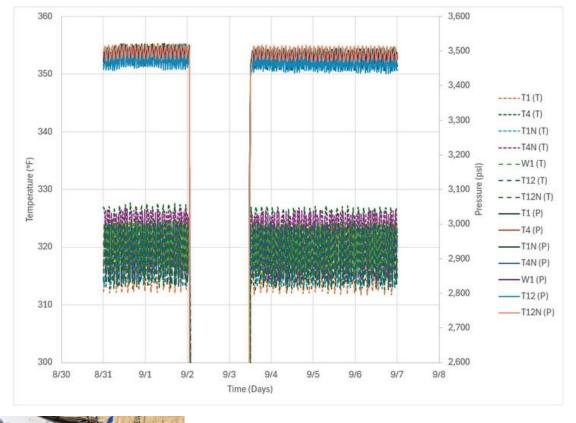
Test Duration: ~225 minutes

1	C CDCE"
	SoCalGas. SDGE

T1	pass
T2	1st attempt fail after 1 cycle up to 450ºF & up to 250 psig
	2nd attempt fail within 15 min
Т3	both attempts fail after 1 cycle up to 450°F & up to 250 psig
T4	pass
T5	1st attempt fail after 1 cycle up to 450ºF & up to 250 psig
	2nd attempt fail within 15 min
T6	both attempts fail within 15 minutes
Т7	both attempts fail within 15 minutes
	1st attempt fail within 15 min
Т8	2nd attempt fail after 1 cycle up to 450ºF & up to 250 psig
Т9	both attempts fail within 15 minutes
T10	both attempts fail within 15 minutes
T11	1st attempt fail after 1 cycle up to 450°F & up to 250 psig
	2nd attempt fail within 15 min
T12	pass

Current Testing – Part 4







ON TEST:

- 1. ORIGINAL T1 AND NEW T1 (T1N)
- 2. ORIGINAL T4 AND NEW T4 (T4N)
- 3. ORIGINAL T12 AND NEW T12 (T12N)
- 4. WELDED PART AS CONTROL (W1)

HELD AT ~315°F AND ~3,400 PSIG



Questions?





EMISSIONS STRATEGY PROGRAM SHOWCASE

Winter Workshop - February 12, 2025





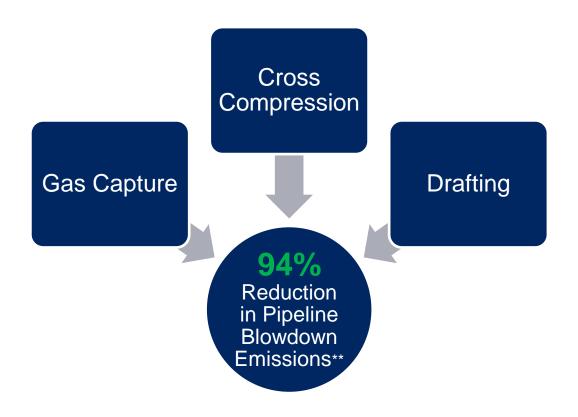
Summary

- » Program Accomplishments
 - SoCalGas and SDG&E Blowdown Reduction Activities
 - SoCalGas Aerial Methane Mapping
 - SoCalGas Leak Inventory Reduction
 - SoCalGas and SDG&E Damage Prevention Public Awareness
- » Emerging Opportunities
- » Roadmap to 40% Emission Reductions

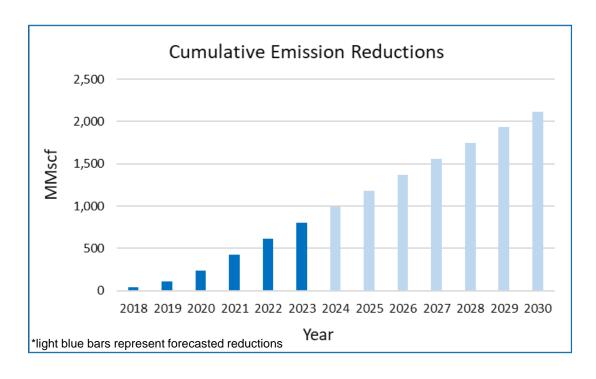




SoCalGas - Blowdown Reduction Activities



- » 802 MMscf of emission reductions from 2018 through 2023
- Estimating 2.1 Bscf of cumulative reductions by 2030

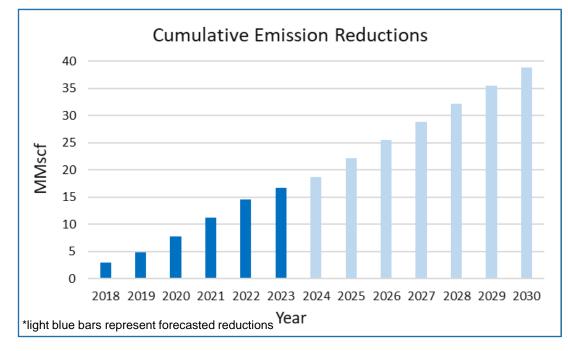




SDG&E - Blowdown Reduction Activities



- » 62% reduction in pipeline blowdown emissions during 2023
 - » 17 MMscf of reductions from blowdowns during 2018 through 2023
- Estimating 39 MMscf of cumulative reductions by 2030



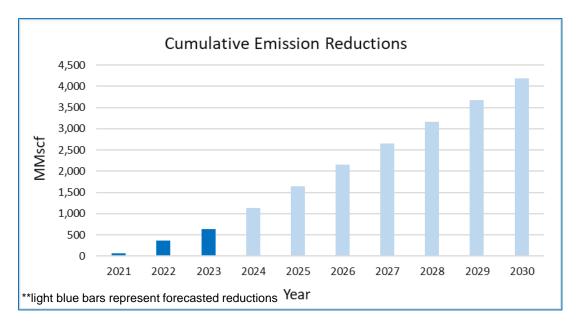


SoCalGas - Aerial Methane Mapping (AMM)

- » Program is benefiting from past 4 years of investments
 - 2021-2022 (Std cost-effectiveness of \$70*/Mscf \$48/Mscf)
 - Increased coverage 4x, which improved efficiency of fixed program costs
 - 2022-2023 (Std cost-effectiveness of \$48/Mscf \$29/Mscf)
 - Successfully negotiated pricing with vendor
 - Introduced new sensor that can detect more emissions per square mile
 - Completed capital investment to develop data management systems
 - Enhanced data processing efficiency to reduce costs
 - 2023-2024 (Std cost-effectiveness of \$29/Mscf \$28/Mscf)
 - IT capital costs completed
 - Covered 1.8x more area in 2024 (due to 2023 pause), which improved efficiency of fixed program costs
 - 2025-2030 (Forecasting std cost-effectiveness of \$25/Mscf)
 - Negotiated price reductions for 2024 Compliance Plan scope
 - Potential to improve cost-effectiveness further
 - Implementation of "ferry scans"
 - Reduction of incomplete combustion emissions



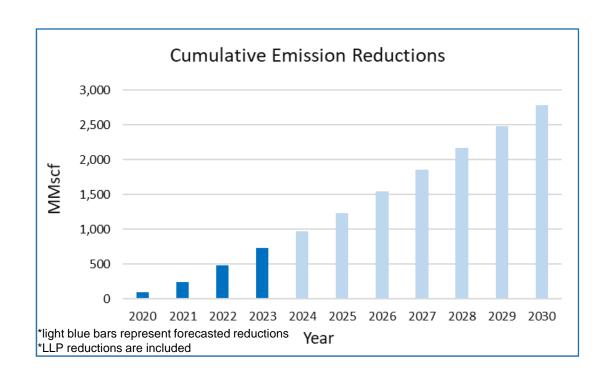




SoCalGas - Leak Inventory Reduction



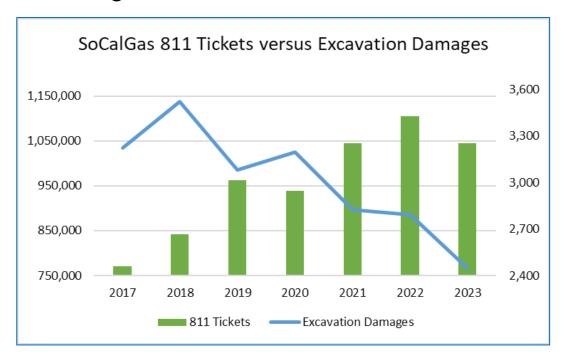
- 727 MMscf of reductions from 2020 through 2023
- Estimating 2.8 Bscf of cumulative reductions by 2030
- » Cost reduction strategies:
 - » Negotiating paving cost reductions
 - » Ongoing analysis of costs to identify workforce efficiencies

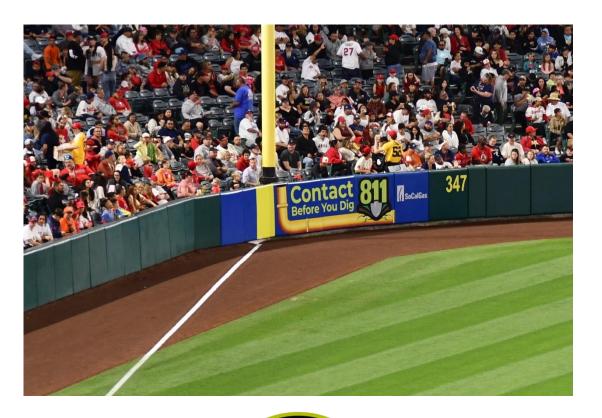




SoCalGas - Damage Prevention Public Awareness

» Damage prevention program continues to reduce excavation damages



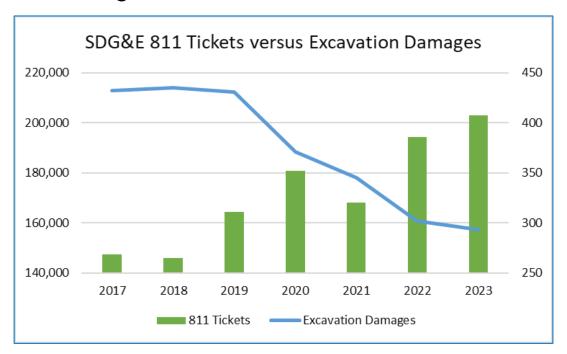






SDG&E - Damage Prevention Public Awareness

» Damage prevention program continues to reduce excavation damages









Emerging Opportunities - SoCalGas

- » Pilot program to increase frequency of MSA surveys
 - Estimated to reduce additional 81MMscf per year
- » Drawdown infrastructure to mitigate pipeline blowdown emissions
 - Expected to decrease costs by reducing the need for high-powered cross-compression
- » Advanced data analytics to identify leaks
 - Exploring new algorithms to identify consumption anomalies
- » Strategic implementation of vapor recovery systems at Compressor Stations
 - Estimated to reduce compressor emissions by 25% from 2023 levels
- » Quality and maintenance plan for Transmission compressor rod packing
 - Estimated to reduce compressor emissions by 20% from 2023 levels
- » Development of AMM Emission Factors to complement Large Leak Prioritization Program
 - Supports prioritization of leaks with the greatest flow rates



Emerging Opportunities - SDG&E

- » Implementation of Aerial Methane Mapping (AMM)
- » Advanced meter consumption analytics to identify leaks
 - Exploring new algorithms to identify consumption anomalies
- » Enhanced pipe fittings specifications
 - Published standards to confirm manufacturers' thread fabrication processes conform to National Pipe Thread (NPT) standards
 - Implemented stringent material inspection standards



Roadmap to 40% Emission Reductions

» Maintenance of projects and reductions

- Maintaining reductions is critical
- Program costs may increase while emission reductions remain level

» Exploration of new methods and technologies

R&D efforts are focused on cost-effective emission reductions

» Implementation of diverse projects

- Emissions can vary year-to-year
- A diverse project portfolio helps to hedge against unexpected increases in emissions

» Providing a buffer

Should target to reduce past 40% because emissions can vary year-to-year



Questions?





Closing and Next Steps

CARB and CPUC



Final Questions?

- Click the hand next to your name in the participant list
- dill
- The host will call on your name when it is your turn to speak
- Or, type question into the chat



THANK YOU

For more information and today's slides:

https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/about-cpuc/divisions/safety-policy-division/risk-assessment-and-safety-analytics/natural-gas-leak-abatement

