## **Natural Gas STAR Program**



Innovative Technologies for the Oil & Gas Industry: Product Capture, Process Optimization, and Pollution Prevention

**Producers Technology Transfer Workshop** 

Devon Energy and EPA's Natural Gas STAR Program Fort Worth, TX June 6, 2006





## **Agenda**

- Background U.S. Methane Emissions
- Methane Emissions in the U.S. Oil and Gas Industry
- Natural Gas STAR Program Overview & Accomplishments
- Natural Gas STAR Program Resources

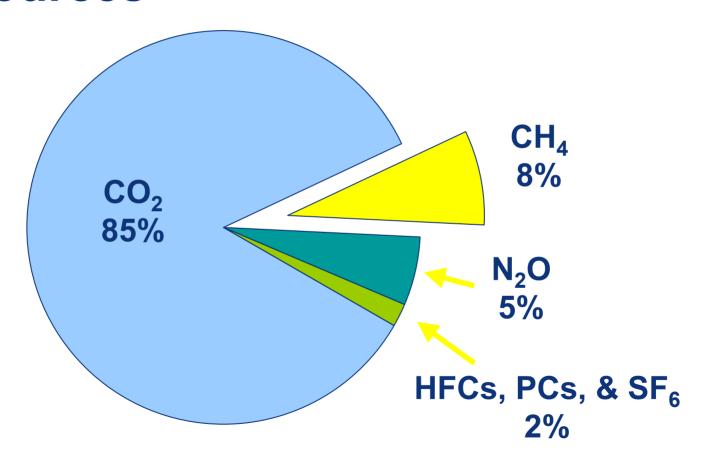


## The "So What" – Why are we here?

- Reducing methane emissions from the U.S. oil and gas industry has cross-cutting impacts
  - Addressing environmental and global warming concerns
  - Operation of the property of the oil & gas sector
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  - Increasing domestic natural gas supply

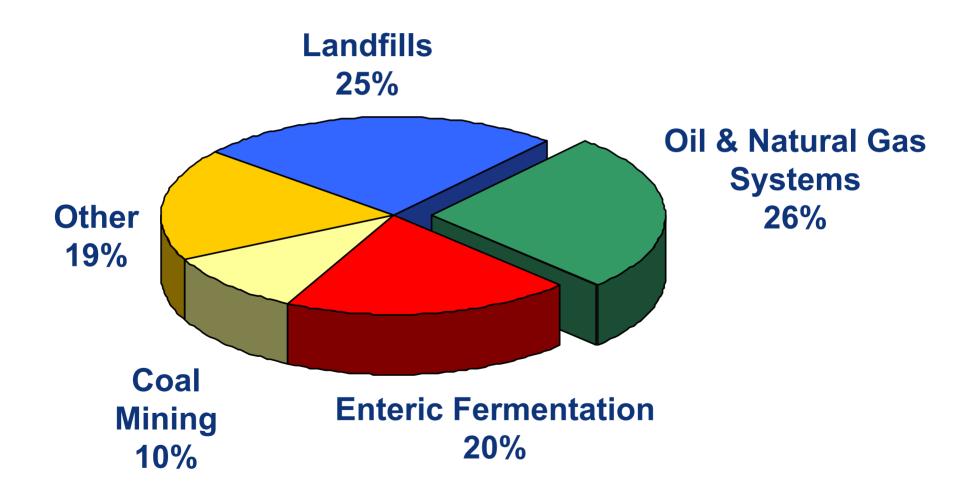


## U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions – All Sources





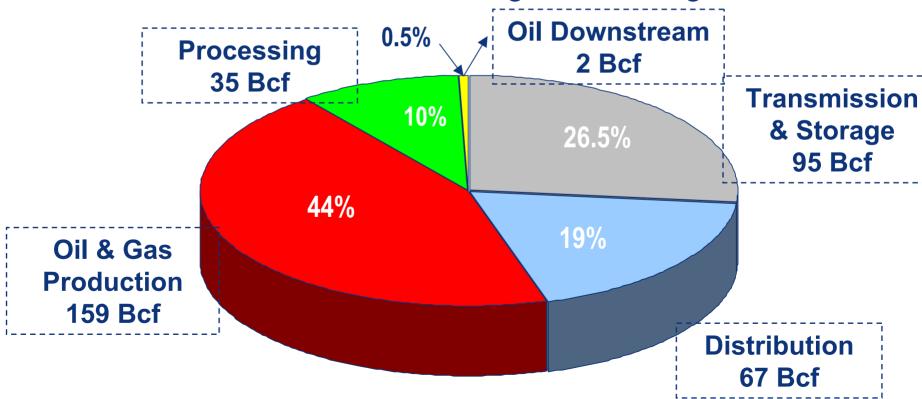
#### **U.S. Methane Emissions**





### **U.S. Oil & Natural Gas Industry**

- Methane losses from the U.S. oil & natural gas industry total 358 billion cubic feet (Bcf)
  - Accounts for 2% of total U.S. greenhouse gas emissions





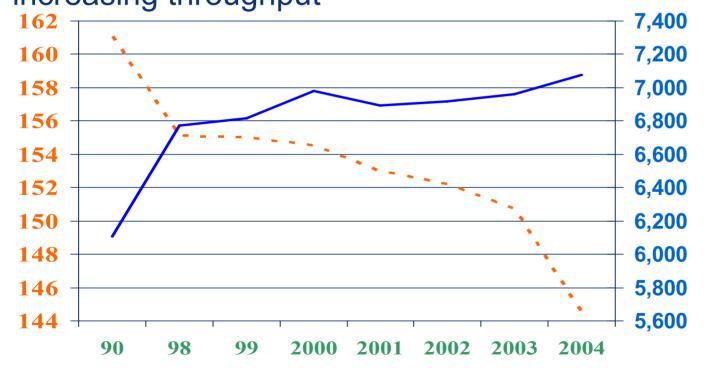
## **U.S. Oil & Natural Gas Opportunities**

- § 358 Bcf of methane emissions per year amounts to
  - \$2.51Billion in lost revenue at \$7/Mcf natural gas
  - Global warming equivalent of putting over 31 million additional cars on the road in the U.S.
  - Gas supply capable of heating over 5 million U.S. households for a year
- U.S. oil and gas industry has an opportunity to cost effectively reduce these impacts



# Natural Gas STAR Partner Accomplishments: Years 1990 - 2004

Natural gas sector reduced emissions while increasing throughput



U.S oil & natural gas sector CH<sub>4</sub> emissions

Total U.S. greenhouse gas emissions

Units in teragrams of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent (TgCO<sub>2</sub>E)



## **Natural Gas STAR Program**

The Natural Gas STAR Program is a flexible, voluntary partnership between EPA and the oil and natural gas industry designed to cost-effectively reduce methane emissions from natural gas operations.



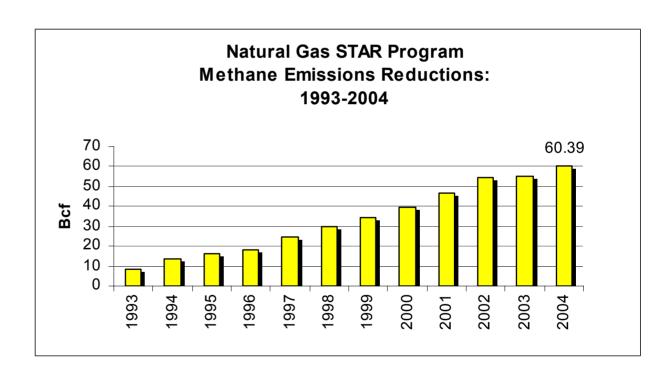
### **Gas STAR Partners & Endorsers**

- 114 Program partners across all four sectors
  - Recommended technologies and practices come directly from partner companies and industry experts
- 18 endorser associations, including
  - American Petroleum Institute (API)
  - Colorado Oil & Gas Association (COGA)
  - Domestic Petroleum Council (DPC)
  - Gas Processors Association (GPA)
  - Interstate Oil & Gas Compact Commission (IOGCC)
  - Independent Producer's Association of America (IPAA)
  - Independent Producers Association of Mountain States (IPAMS)
  - Petroleum Association of Wyoming (PAW)
  - Petroleum Technology Transfer Council (PTTC)
  - Southern Gas Association (SGA)



# Natural Gas STAR Partner Accomplishments

- Natural Gas STAR partners have reduced methane emissions by 403 Bcf
- Methane
   emissions from
   U.S. oil and gas
   sector below
   1990 levels





## Oil & Gas Methane Emissions Without Natural Gas STAR Program (2004)

**Processing** 

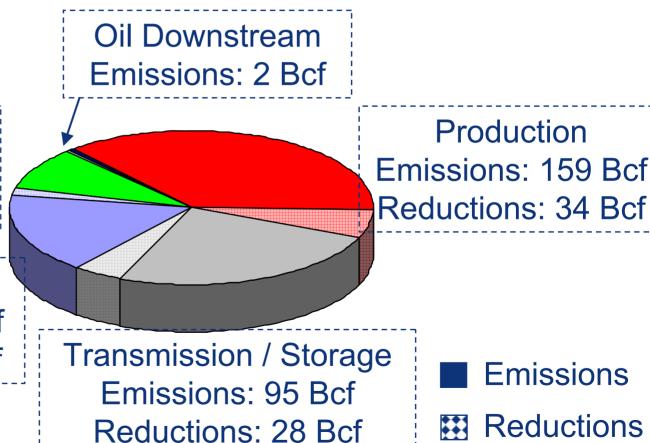
**Emissions: 35 Bcf** 

Reductions: 2 Bcf

Distribution

Emissions: 67 Bcf

Reductions: 4 Bcf



**Emissions** 

Reductions



## Methane Emission Reduction Opportunities

A Partners have reported over 80 technologies and practices for achieving cost effective methane emission reductions

#### **Best Practices - Production**

- Perform reduced emission completions
- Install vapor recovery units
- Install plunger lifts
- Install instrument air systems
- Eliminate unnecessary equipment and/or systems
- Install electric compressors



### **Program Resources**

- Guidance on recommended practices & technologies
  - Detailed implementation guides, including partner case studies
  - Economic analysis tools
  - Communication tools
- Available on <u>www.epa.gov/gasstar</u>
- Technology Transfer workshops
  - Free and open to the public
- Annual record of Partner methane savings
- One-on-one technical assistance





## Workshops

- Upcoming Technology Transfer Workshops (5 to 6 per year)
  - Producers Technology Transfer Workshop Sponsored by Occidental Oil and Gas, PTTC, and NMOGA June 8 & 9, 2006 Midland, TX
  - Producers Technology Transfer Workshop Sponsored by Occidental Oil and Gas, PTTC, and NMOGA June 8 & 9, 2006 Midland, TX
  - Processors Technology Transfer Workshop Sponsored by Targa Resources, GPA, and NMOGA July 27, 2006 Hobbs, NM
  - Annual Implementation Workshop October 23-25, 2006 Houston, TX



#### White House "Methane to Markets" Initiative

- Five year activity to develop verifiable methane emissions reduction projects at landfills, coal mines and natural gas systems.
- Goal is to build long-term capacity within developing countries and economies in transition.
- Countries include: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, Ecuador, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Nigeria, Republic of Korea, Russia, Ukraine, U.K. and U.S.
- Natural Gas STAR will lead natural gas system-related activities, including upcoming launch of international program
- www.methanetomarkets.org



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