Methane Policy

Our Position

We support the development of well-designed policies that directly reduce methane emissions from global oil and natural gas operations. Policies should address methane emissions from the full natural gas value chain. For the oil and gas sector, the value chain includes exploration, production, and transportation; downstream distribution infrastructure and end use methane emissions should also be managed through policy. We believe governments can play an important role in helping the oil and gas industry tackle methane emissions by facilitating investment in infrastructure and technology development.

Our Rationale

- Support for policies that reduce methane emissions is consistent with the Baker Hughes energy transition goal of achieving net-zero carbon emissions by 2050.
- Baker Hughes believes that climate change is one of the most significant challenges facing the world and warrants meaningful action to reduce the environmental impact of the energy industry on our planet; our company policies on Climate Change and our Paris Climate Accord Commitment align with and support this position.
- Natural gas is helping to achieve the world’s carbon-reduction goals and will remain an important part of a sustainable energy future even under ambitious efforts in line with the Paris Climate Agreement to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.
- Methane, a key component of natural gas, is a powerful GHG and anthropogenic methane emissions must be reduced to meet the global climate imperatives.
- Methane emissions from natural gas operations, principally due to venting during normal operations and “fugitive” emissions from equipment and component leaks, contribute significantly to total methane emissions of many hydrocarbon-producing nations.
- We applaud the commitments of many oil and gas operators around the world to voluntarily reduce methane emissions, and such efforts should be recognized in the policy development process. However, voluntary actions are not enough to fully address the issue.
- Failure to meaningfully address oil and gas sector methane emissions threatens to undermine the value of natural gas in a low-carbon future and to impact the oil and gas industry’s social license to operate.
• Our goal is to ensure a role for natural gas in a sustainable energy future by helping customers address methane emissions associated with exploration, production, and transportation.
• Policies that drive meaningful methane emission reductions can be designed to be cost-effective, performance-based to facilitate future technological developments, comprehensive to cover all sources of operator emissions, and paced to allow for transition.
• Performance-based policies can also stimulate innovation and continuous improvement, create a level playing field, and harmonize with other policies and initiatives.

Our Actions

As an energy technology company we offer a range of products and services to help our customers manage and reduce methane emissions, from advanced methane monitoring and detection, to flare optimization and flare gas processing solutions, to ‘zero-bleed’ valves to control fugitives and leakage.

We work constructively with governments, customers, trade groups and other stakeholders around the world to advance the development and implementation of sound regulations, investment and incentive programs, as well as cost-effective technologies to reduce methane emissions from the oil and gas sector.