CLEARING THE AIR

Strategies for Effective State Methane Abatement Policies

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Introduction

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CLIMATE X CHANGE
[SCPN]

State Climate Policy Network (SCPN)

- Network of 15,000+ policymakers, advocates, business leaders and experts pushing for effective and equitable climate policies in their states
- Host monthly national calls and webinars
- Share updates, research, and analysis on various climate policy topics

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How can we help you?

We specialize in state climate policy tracking, analysis, and expert connections. Reach out to kristen@climate-xchange.org with your questions on:

- **Example states** for a given policy
- **Gap analysis** of your state's climate policy landscape
- **Connections** to other actors working on similar issues

Or, check out our **State Climate Policy Dashboard**, which tracks state-level climate policy and resources across all 50 states.

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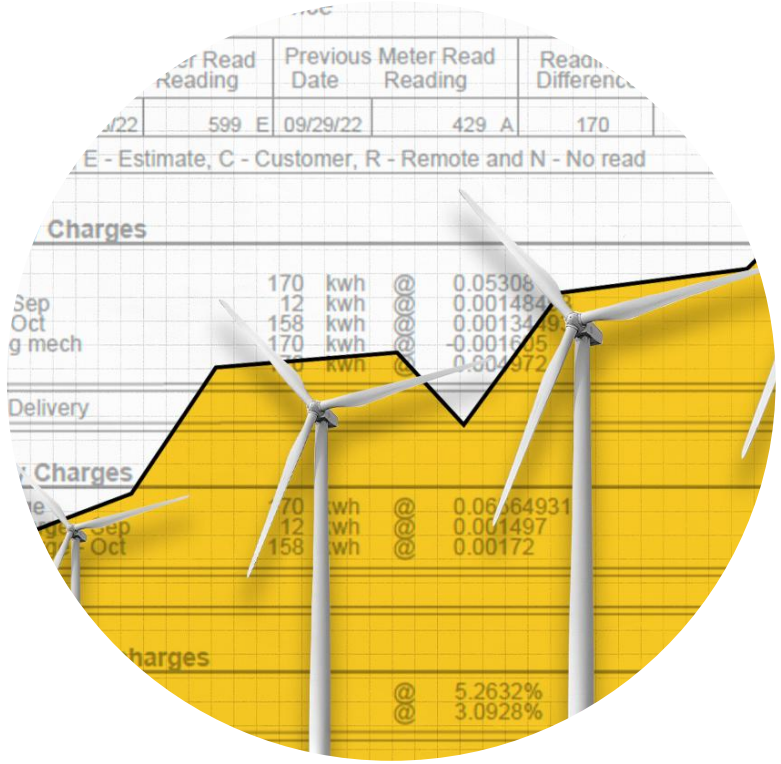
Support our Annual EV Raffle!

- Grand Prize: **Fully customized EV** of your choice from any manufacturer!
- Additional **cash prizes** for 2nd-5th place
- Proceeds **support our mission**

Enter to win at ***carbonraffle.org***



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Clearing the Air: Strategies for Effective Methane Abatement Policies

Jon Goldstein
Senior Director, Regulatory & Legislative Affairs
EDF

Barry Rabe
Professor of Environmental Policy
Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy, University of Michigan

Kayley Shoup
Citizens Caring for the Future

1. Reducing Oil and Gas Methane Pollution
2. Global → State Implications of Methane Regulation
3. State Example: New Mexico
4. Q&A

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Speaker

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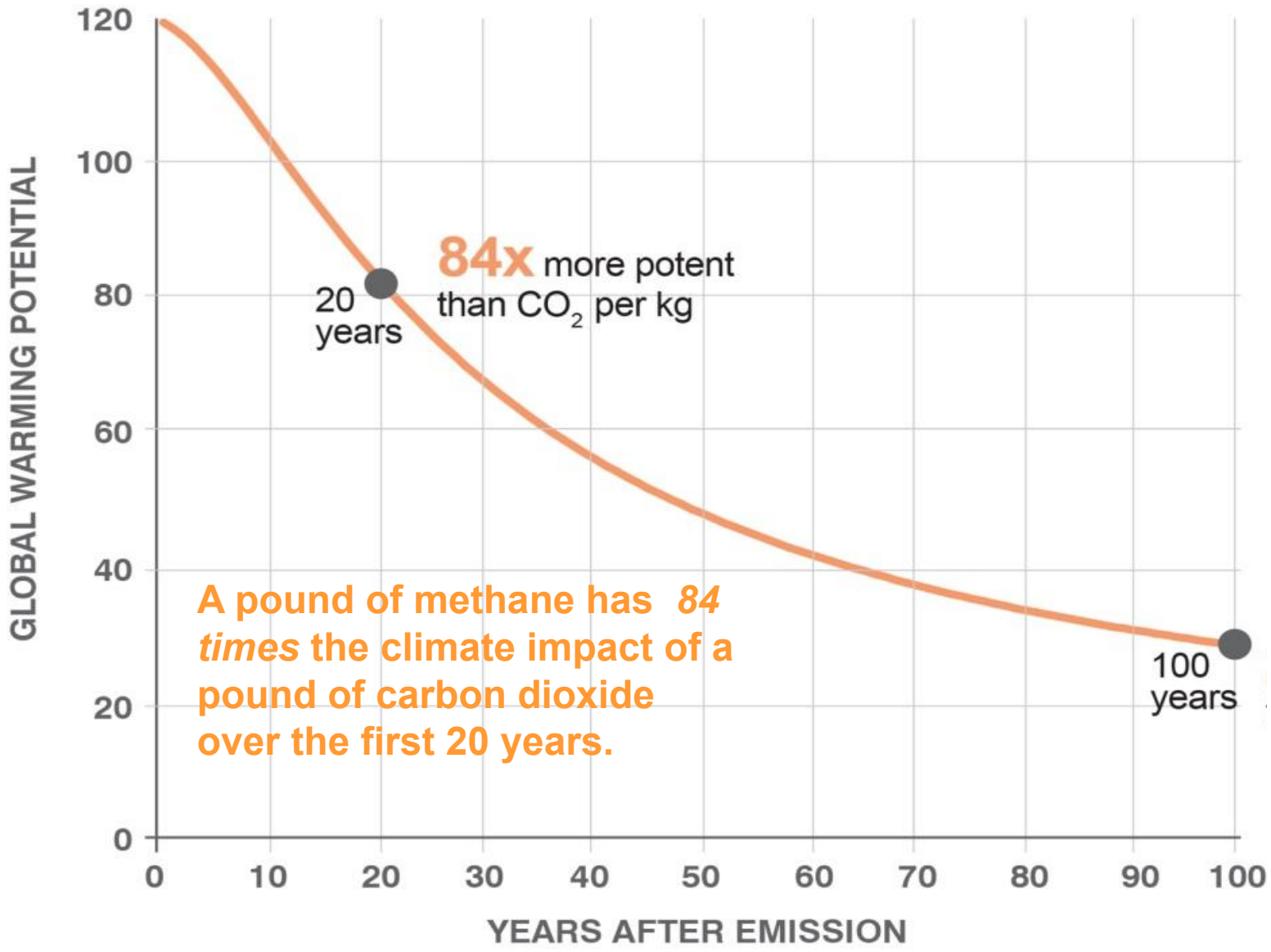
Reducing Oil and Gas Methane and Air Pollution

Jon Goldstein, Environmental Defense Fund


GLOBAL WARMING POTENTIAL
120
100
80
60
40
20
0
0
10
20
30
40
50
60
70
80
90
100
YEARS AFTER EMISSION
84x more potent than CO_2 per kg
20 years
100 years
A pound of methane has *84 times* the climate impact of a pound of carbon dioxide over the first 20 years.

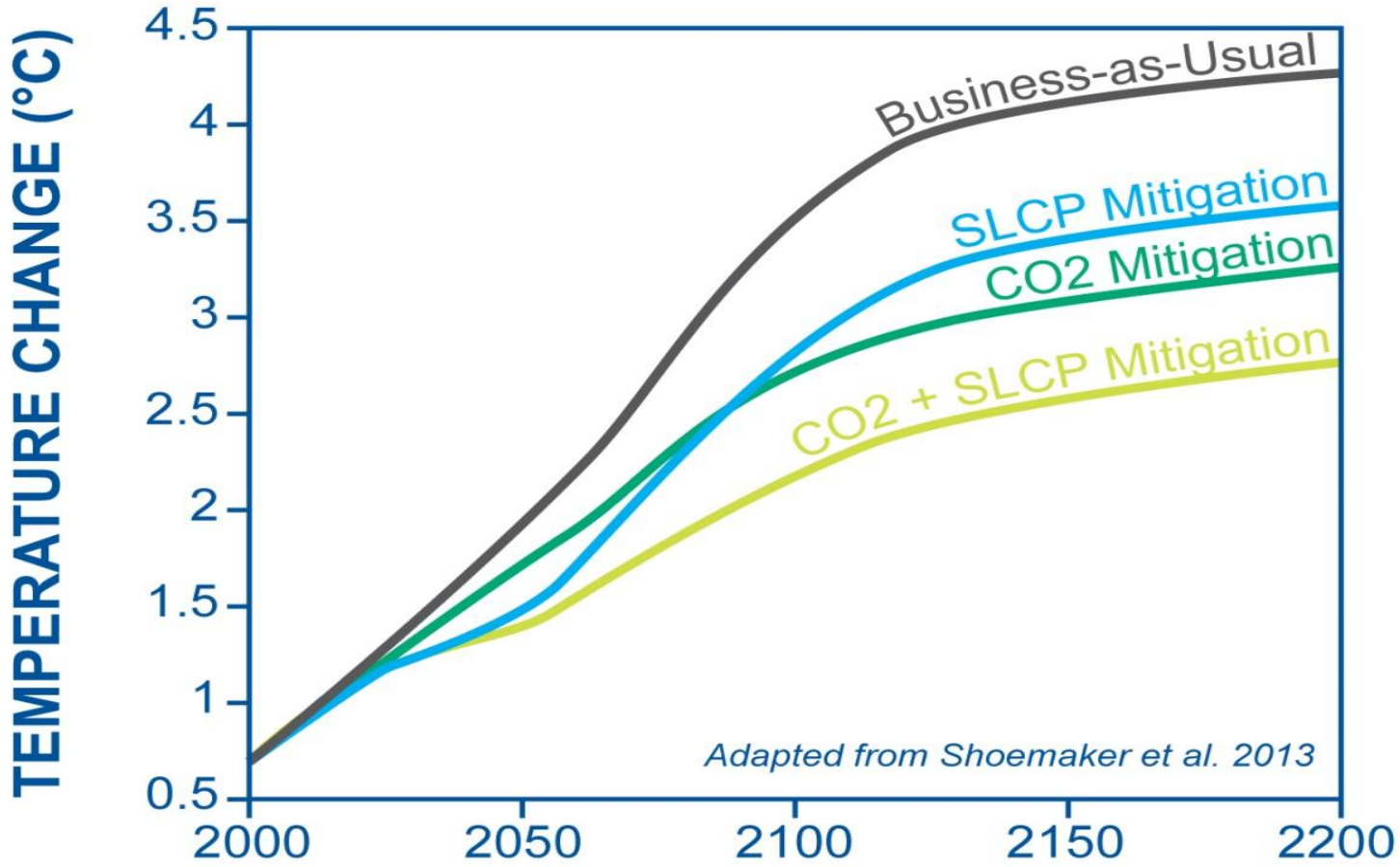
Methane is causing **25% of man-made global warming.**

Oil & gas is the largest industrial source of U.S. methane emissions.

Methane is the primary constituent of natural gas: emissions are a public health, climate and waste problem.

Methane from O&G production sources is emitted with **VOCs, a building block of ozone pollution**.

Methane is invisible to the naked eye.



Reducing CO2 and short term climate pollutants like methane can slow the current rate of global warming

Older, smaller and inactive facilities significantly contribute to emissions

Learnings from Mark Omara's Paper

Smaller, "marginal" wells only account for 6% of U.S. Production

But, they account for 50% of well-site emissions

More than ¾ of US marginal wells are owned by companies with >100 active wells

Malfunctioning flares are a major emissions source

Learnings from EDF's field research in the Permian basin, the largest oilfield in the US

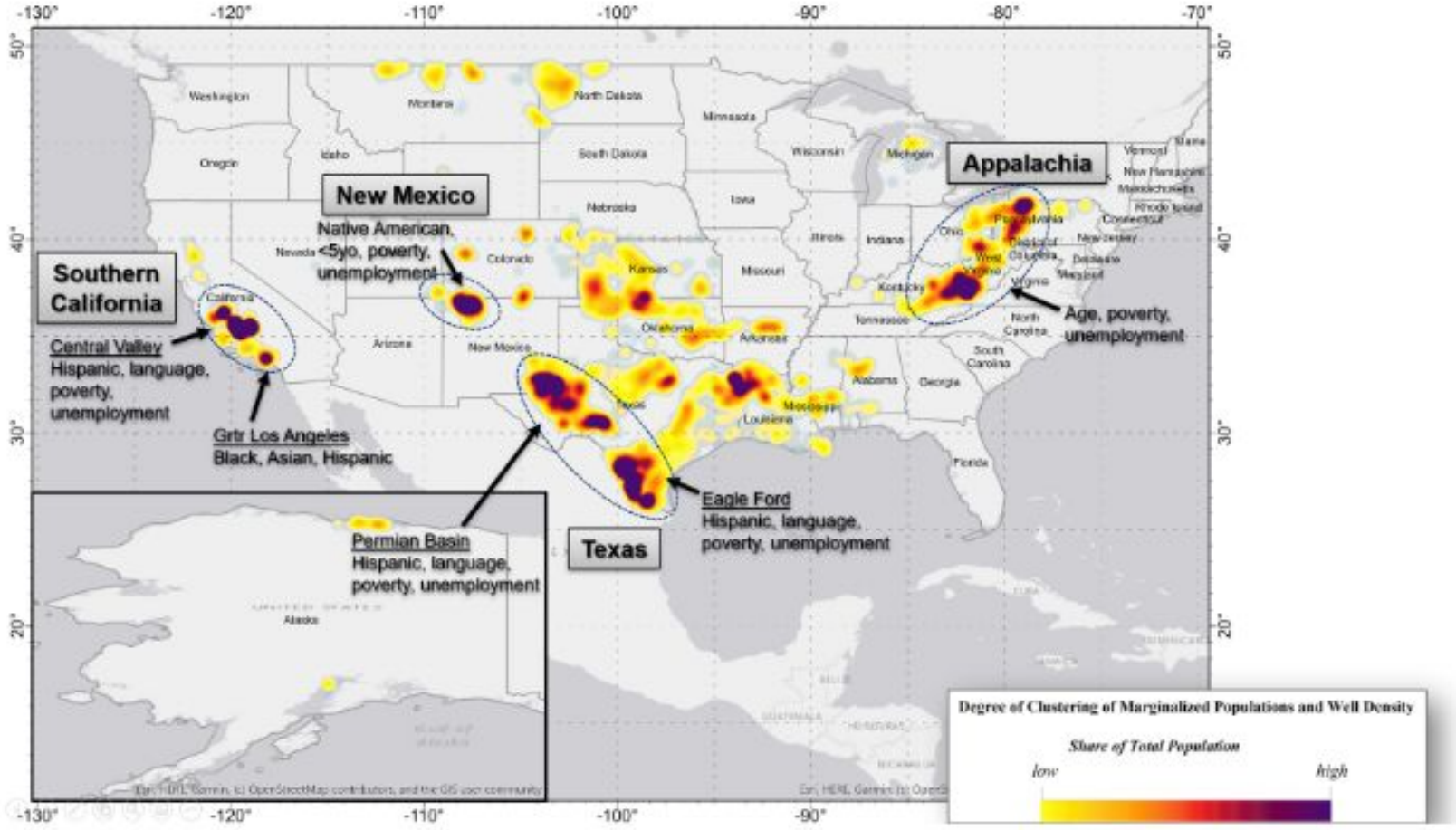
EDF surveys have found that 1 in 10 flares was malfunctioning or unlit

More than half of these flares were found to malfunction repeatedly

Aerial remote sensing finds that flares are 12% of detected emissions

Who is impacted is also essential to understand

Our findings support what environmental justice groups have been voicing for years: in many counties across America, people who have been historically marginalized–communities of color, older Americans, children, and people living under the federal poverty line–often live near wells in greater proportions than the other groups that make up the rest of their local county



Policy Opportunity

State Efforts

- **CO and NM:** Bans on routine venting and flaring. Frequent leak detection and repair required at new and existing well sites + smaller, lower producing wells.
- **Texas?** "Since the RRC launched a flaring exemption database in May 2021, the records include only 44 applications that were denied and more than 8,000 that were approved.“

-https://insideclimatenews.org/news/18102023/texas-railroad-commission-approval-flaring/

Final EPA Rules Announced 12/2/23

Key Requirements

Leak monitoring: the final rule includes comprehensive leak monitoring requirements.
Pneumatics: the final rule retains the protective, sector-wide zero pollution standard of the proposal
Flaring of associated gas: EPA has substantially strengthened flaring provisions by requiring new sources–where the vast majority of flaring occurs–to eliminate routine flaring within two years of rule finalization.

Pollution benefits: EPA estimates that from 2024 to 2038 the standards will reduce methane from covered sources by 80%. Total emission reductions over that period are estimated to be 58 million tons of methane. In 2030 alone, the expected reductions are equivalent to 130 million metric tons of carbon dioxide – more than the annual emissions from 28 million gasoline cars.

State Implementation

- Implementation leverages the responsibility of state governments to adopt policies to implement the federal requirements for existing sources.

- States may develop State Implementation Plans (SIPs) that meet or are stronger than EPA's guidelines and are then submitted to EPA for review and approval or disapproval.

- States that do not submit an acceptable SIP during the next two-to-three years will be subject to a Federal Implementation Plan (FIP) from EPA.

The Inflation Reduction Act's Methane Emissions Reduction Program

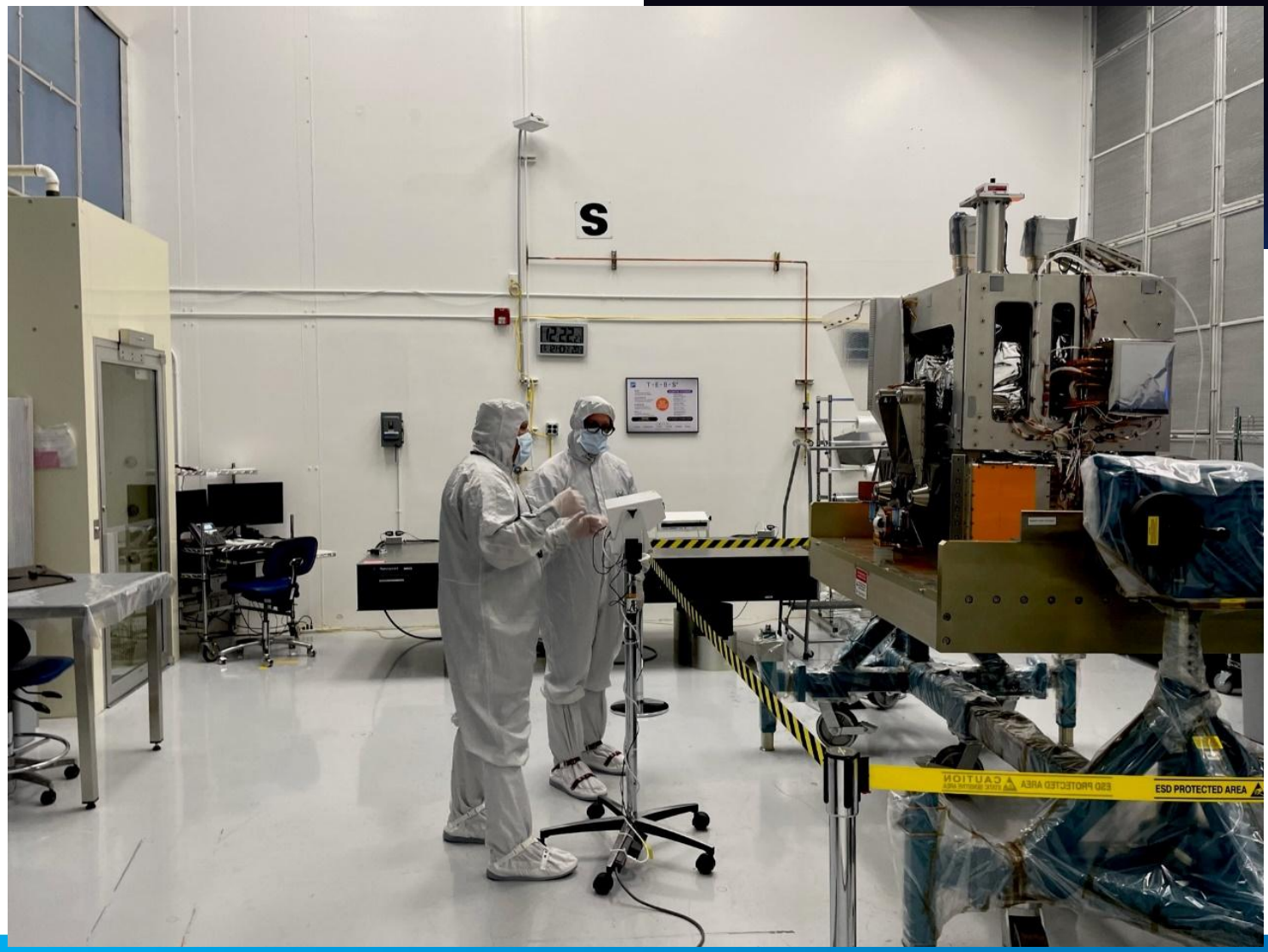
The IRA's Methane Emissions Reduction Program (MERP) complements and reinforces EPA's methane standards.

Waste charge applies to large polluting facilities in the oil and gas sector with excessive methane pollution. By reducing their emissions in line with industry's own targets, companies can avoid paying the charge.

MERP also includes more than $1.5B in funding to reduce methane emissions – funding to state and tribal agencies, communities, and producers themselves.

On Jan. 12, EPA proposed structure for MERP's methane waste charge on large sources of oil and gas methane pollution. 45 day public comment period to follow.

What's our next bold move to meet the methane moment?



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Q&A

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Thank you for joining!

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