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# Integrated Energy Policy Report (IEPR) Staff Workshop Fugitive Methane Emissions in California's Natural Gas System

June 1, 2015 California Energy Commission

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#### **Preview**

- » Company Background
- » Methane Reduction & Technology
- » Being Part of the Solution



#### SoCalGas & SDG&E Service Territory



- Nation's largest natural gas distribution utility
- In business for 140+ years
- 12 counties, 500+ communities served
- 21.1 million customers
- 5.8 million gas meters
- 20,000+ square miles of service territory



#### **Service Territory Stats**

#### **SOCALGAS AND SDG&E**

**Annual Deliveries** 

**1 TRILLION CUBIC FEET** 

50/0 of U.S. Deliveries

**Four Storage Fields** 

**136 BILLION CUBIC FEET** 

3%

of U.S. Storage Capacity

**Transmission System** 

3,742

combined miles

3,508 SOCALGAS • 234 SDG&E

3.9 BILLION

CUBIC FEET/DAY

**Receipt Capacity** 

13 COMPRESSOR STATIONS

205,662

**Cumulative Horsepower** 

**Distribution Network** 

57,930

miles of mains

49,953 SOCALGAS • 7,977 SDG&E

**55,600** miles of services

49,010 SOCALGAS • 6,590 SDG&E

1,969
REGULATOR STATIONS

PRESSURES

OF ~60

LBS/SQ INCH

OR LESS

#### SoCalGas' Going Forward Plan









Collaborating
with the CPUC to
cost-effectively
enhance
infrastructure
safety while
yielding
environmental
benefits

Funding
Research,
Development &
Demonstration
(RD&D) for new
technologies,
and greater
efficiencies

Investing in pipeline safety enhancements: ~\$1.5B over next five years including Pipeline Information Management Systems (PIMS)

Proposed
accelerating
replacement of
pipe and
eliminating nonhazardous leaks
backlog over 5
years in general
rate case filing

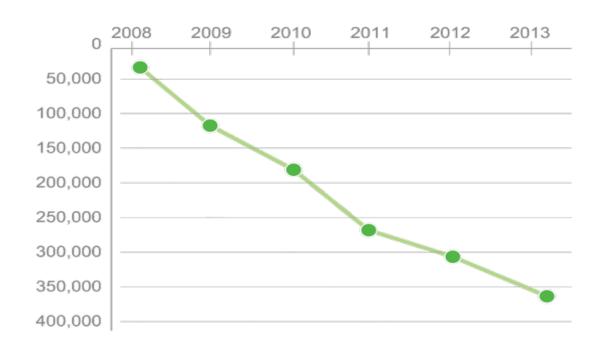
Pipeline

Maintenance

Partnering with academia, regulators and industry on studies and programs:
Being Part of the Solution



### The result has been a steady decline in **SOCALGAS' EMISSIONS**



Cumulative reduction from Best Management Practices (BMPs) from EPA as reported under Natural Gas STAR Reductions

Socalgas
JANUARY 2015 | SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GAS COMPANY
Sempra Energy usary

With the EPA Natural Gas STAR Program, SoCalGas achieved



360,366

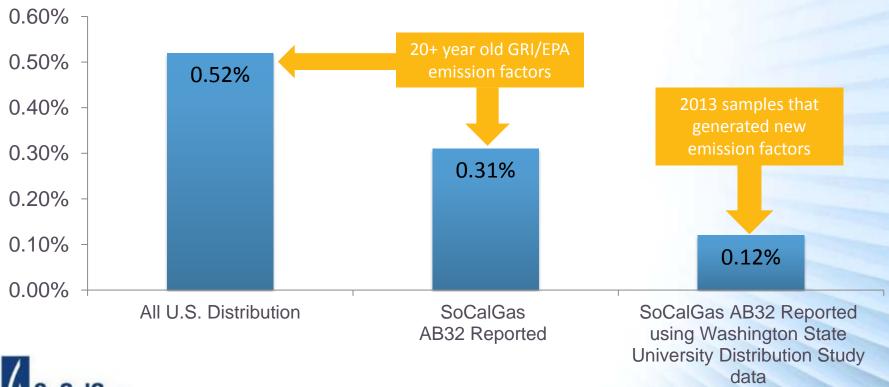
Methane Reductions (MTCO2e)

between 2008-2013

#### **NEW STUDIES SHOW LOWER LEAK RATES**

primarily due to system modernization and better leak detection

System Wide Emission Rate Comparison 2013 Reported/Delivered Volumes



## SoCalGas has deployed technology innovations for EVEN BETTER LEAK DETECTION



#### **MOBILE**

New Mobile methane detection, deployed in 2013



#### **AERIAL SURVEYS**

Future Technology: Unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) to investigate emission sources



#### **Technology Plan Overview**

#### Purpose:

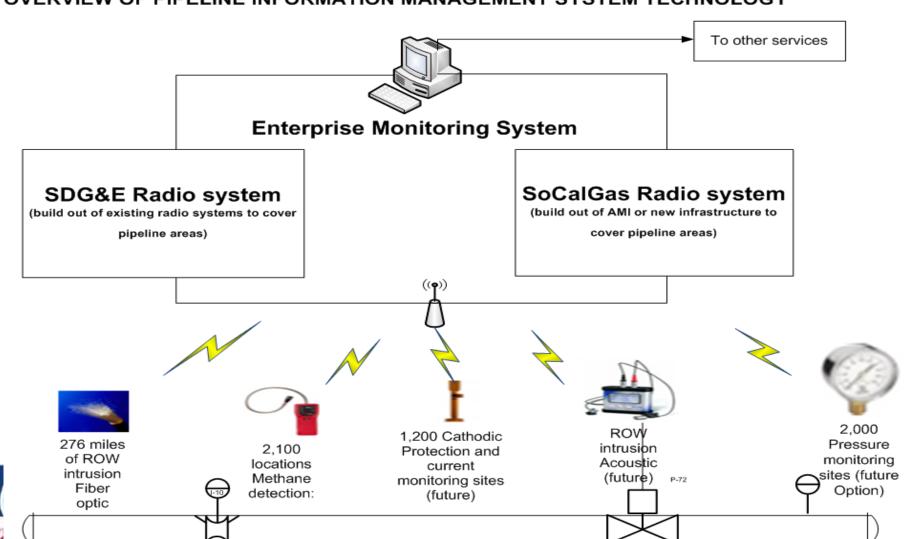
Provide near real-time field data on large pipeline rights-of-way to prevent, mitigate and manage pipeline incidents. (SDGE and SCG.)

#### Scope:

- 1. Methane detectors: to provide real-time notification of major leaks
- 2. Fiber optic cabling along pipelines: to provide event early warning on digging, movement, impact.
- 3. Pipeline Information Management System: to collect information, manage data and to provide for linkage with dispatch and other company information systems
- 4. Radio system expansions

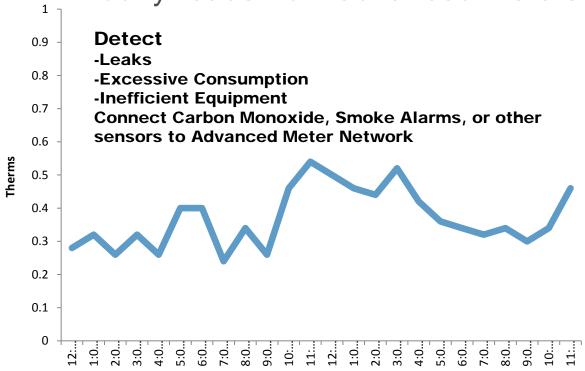


#### OVERVIEW OF PIPELINE INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM TECHNOLOGY



## SMART GAS DRIVES EARLY DETECTION

with hourly reads from advanced meters



Installation

2,503,768

MTUs Installed (9/19)





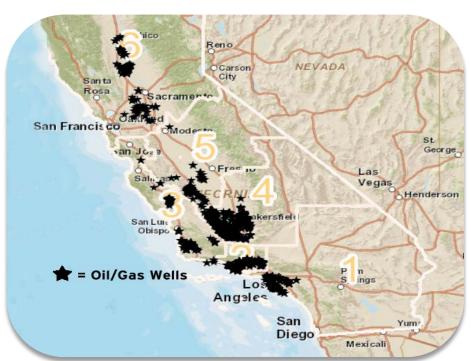
## Innovation Advancing Pipeline Safety Technology

- Self-propelled robotic internal inspection tool (smaller diameters)
- > Remains In-Situ
- > Rechargeable
- Continuous Monitoring
- Plastic & MetalCompatible





## Gas Quality Monitoring Requirements Changing



Source: Division of Oil, Gas & Geothermal Resources Well Finder

» New Sources are being added to system (i.e. biogas)-need affordable gas quality monitoring

» Differentiating natural gas from system from other sources will be critical



#### WHAT WE HAVE LEARNED

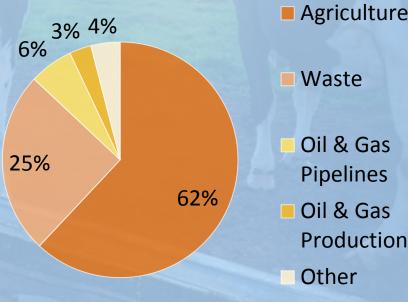
- In the natural gas sector, methane emissions are declining, and will continue to decline.
- » Southern California Gas is looking to gain improvements through:
  - Infrastructure modernization; eliminating backlog and accelerated pipe replacement with California Public Utilities Commission approval;
  - Continued partnerships in methane emissions studies to identify areas to focus on and improve accuracy of inventory;
  - Being part of the solution with continued funding in Research, Development and Demonstration programs;
  - Voluntary reductions through EPA's Natural Gas STAR program.
- » Science-based approaches must drive our policies to invest our dollars wisely
- » Direct Measurement Study released by Washington State University supports accurate emissions inventories for developing effective and equitable methane control measures



## Quick facts DID YOU KNOW?



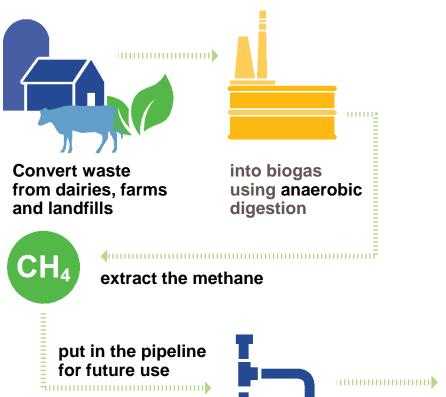
#### **CA 2012 METHANE EMISSIONS\***



\*Source: California Air Resources Board (CARB) 2014 Greenhouse Gases Emissions Inventory

### RENEWABLE

Natural gas



WHAT'S POSSIBLE

**POWER** 

400000000

2-3 million homes

**75%** of all diesel used by CA vehicles

When used for transportation, Biogas from food and green waste can actually

**REMOVE GHGs** 

from the atmosphere

## Exploring opportunities for further INIOVATION

PARTNERING WITH SCRIPPS INSTITUTION OF OCEANOGRAPHY AT UC SAN DIEGO

Algae Consume CO2 and NOX emissions from

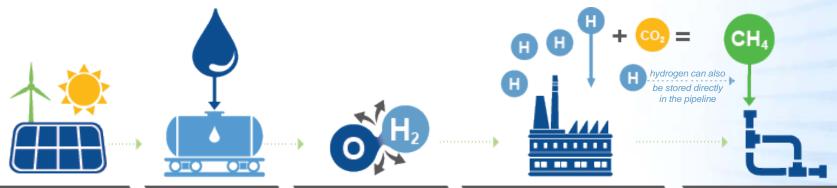
natural gas combustion and convert it into biomethane





### POWER-TO-GAS

addresses the storage challenge



excess renewable energy

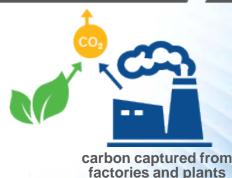
goes through electrolysis

which splits the molecule

hydrogen & carbon combine through methanization

methane can be stored in the pipeline for future use





## Learning from the EU's EXPERIENCE

#### **Power-to-Gas**

**FALKENHAGEN, GERMANY** 

August 2013: First plant to convert electricity into H<sub>2</sub> and inject into the gas grid

#### STUTTGART, GERMANY

Plant uses an electrolyzer to produce H<sub>2</sub> from water.
Combines with CO<sub>2</sub> from a biogas plant to produce CH<sub>4</sub>



### New innovations with hydrogen

### FUEL CELLS

REVOLUTIONIZING HOW WE FUEL OUR CARS AND POWER OUR HOMES

40% fewer GHGs than gasoline when hydrogen is produced from natural gas

#### **NO GHGs**

when produced from renewable natural gas



## Exploring opportunities for further INNOVATION

PARTNERING WITH THE NATIONAL FUEL CELL RESEARCH CENTER AT UC, IRVINE

18-month project to investigate and test the hydrogen blending necessary for

#### commercial

Power-to-Gas storage of excess wind & solar energy



Limit technology and you limit the possibility.

# We need to think bigger and find solutions across the entire ENERGY SYSTEM

# What questions do you have?

