

Oil & Gas Subcommittee
11 July 2018
Toronto, Canada

CALL NOTES

The Global Methane Initiative (GMI) Oil & Gas Subcommittee Call and webinar was held on 11 July 2018. Participants are indicated in Annex I. The purpose of the call was to share an update on Canada's new methane regulations and to discuss implementation of the new GMI Oil and Gas Subcommittee Action Plan that was adopted in April 2018.

Introductions and Welcoming Remarks

The GMI Oil and Gas Subcommittee Co-Chairs, Mr. James Diamond, Environment Canada (Canada) and Ms. Paulina Serrano, PEMEX (Mexico), introduced themselves to the participants.

Presentation: Introducing Canada's new federal methane regulations for the oil and gas sector

Mr. Diamond provided an update on Canada's new regulations to reduce methane emissions by 40% of 2012 levels by 2025. The regulations provide standards for fugitive emissions (leaks) and venting emissions from the oil and gas sector. This will lead to reduced climate change impacts and air pollution, resulting in environmental and health benefits. The presentation is available on the GMI's O&G Subcommittee Page.

Oil and Gas Action Plan Implementation Discussion

The new GMI Oil and Gas Subcommittee Action Plan has four goals and is intended to cover the Subcommittee's activities for the next three years. The co-chairs recommended focusing the Subcommittee's efforts on Goals 1 and 2 for the first year, which are to:

1. Identify Country-Specific Needs and Opportunities
2. Identify and Address Key Barriers to Project Development

The Subcommittee discussed one activity under Goal 1, which is to assist partner countries in drafting new or updating current Methane Action Plans.

Mexico indicated that they would like to update their plan, and Colombia indicated that they are working on a plan starting with understanding fugitive emissions. The United States offered to mentor countries in need of assistance. Emil Pena, a consultant, offered assistance as well. Jonathan Banks with Clean Air Task Force noted that he has been working on a summary of best practices from multiple countries that he can make available – It was suggested that we provide a link with such information on the GMI website. It was also noted that the GMI website provides a template for methane action plans that countries can use as a starting point.

The Subcommittee discussed three activities under Goal 2. The first is to compile a list of barriers to methane mitigation projects. Mr. José Sánchez-Sierra, Colombia, has started working on this list using information from sources such as GMI, the European Commission, and the Clean Air Task Force. As a next step, the co-chairs will follow up with partners and project network members to gather additional information for this list of barriers.

The second activity under Goal 2 is to have discussions that focus on strategies to overcome project barriers. It was suggested that the GMI Oil and Gas Subcommittee hosts a webinar with a presentation to discuss this information. Mr. Pena offered that there are multiple meetings of O&G companies where industry shares technology ideas – such meetings could offer a good opportunity to showcase this work. Mr. Sánchez-Sierra indicated that companies in Colombia would like meetings on monitoring programs and technologies.

The third activity under Goal 2 is to identify financing options and mechanisms. It was decided that this activity will be addressed later this year.

Wrap up

Mr. Diamond provided a final summary of items discussed during the call and webinar:

- Need to ensure information sharing happens beyond the small group of participants – Notes from the meeting will be shared. The co-chairs may also use emails to share information.
- The co-chairs propose to hold a call every 3 months.
- The co-chairs will be seeking volunteers to drive specific activities.

ANNEX I

Meeting Participants

James Diamond – Canada (Oil and Gas Subcommittee Co-Chair)
Paulina Serrano – Pemex/Mexico (Oil and Gas Subcommittee Co-Chair)
Dan Hooper – United States (Oil and Gas Subcommittee Member)
Eduardo José Sánchez-Sierra – Colombia (Oil and Gas Subcommittee Member)
Audrey Mascarenhas – Questor Technology
Corina Sheridan – GCE Systems
Allison Berkowitz – Eastern Research Group, Inc.
Emil Pena – Quest Integrated
Jonathan Banks – Clean Air Task Force
Jennifer Peers – Abt Associates (Oil & Gas Administrative Support)
Monica Shimamura – United States Environmental Protection Agency, GMI