

# United States

Cate Hight, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency



# Natural Gas STAR & Methane Challenge Program Overview

- Natural Gas STAR program established in 1993 to increase awareness of oil and gas methane emission sources and share innovative ways to reduce emissions
  - Significant innovation and capacity building achieved over 25 years
- Methane Challenge, created in 2016, expands opportunities for companies
  - Specific, ambitious commitments
  - Transparent reporting
  - Company-level recognition of commitments and progress
- Both programs offer technology transfer workshops, webinars and other resources to help Partners learn about new and innovative technologies and practices

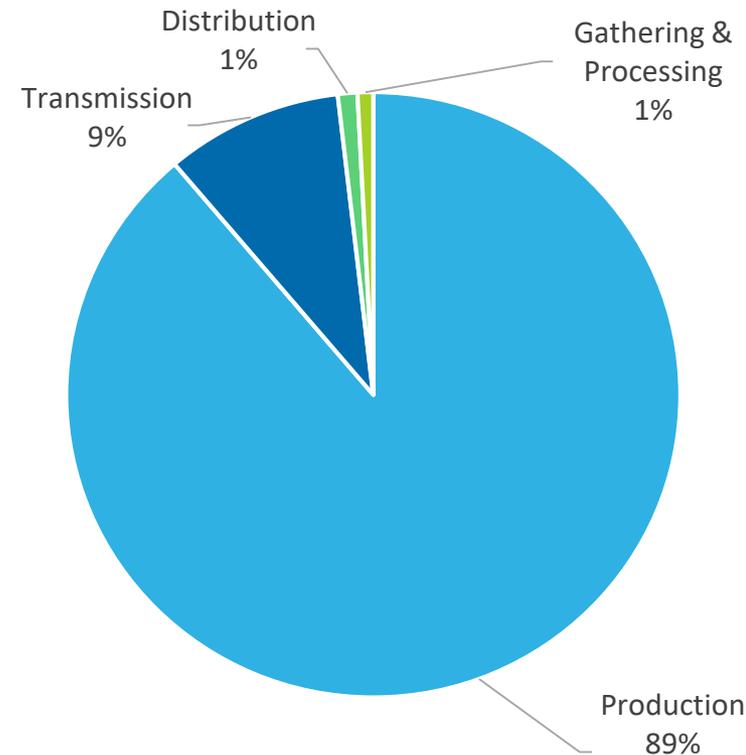


# Natural Gas STAR Highlights



- Since 1993, NG STAR Partners have eliminated nearly 1.5 Tcf (approx. 720 MMTCO<sub>2</sub>e) of methane emissions
- 96.8 Bcf (approx. 46.7 MMTCO<sub>2</sub>e) voluntary methane emissions reductions reported by Partners in 2017
- Partners who submit an annual report receive a comprehensive summary report that highlights trends and the voluntary cumulative methane emissions reductions achieved by the Partner since they joined the program

**2017 Partner-Reported Voluntary Methane Emission Reductions by Segment = 96.8 Bcf**

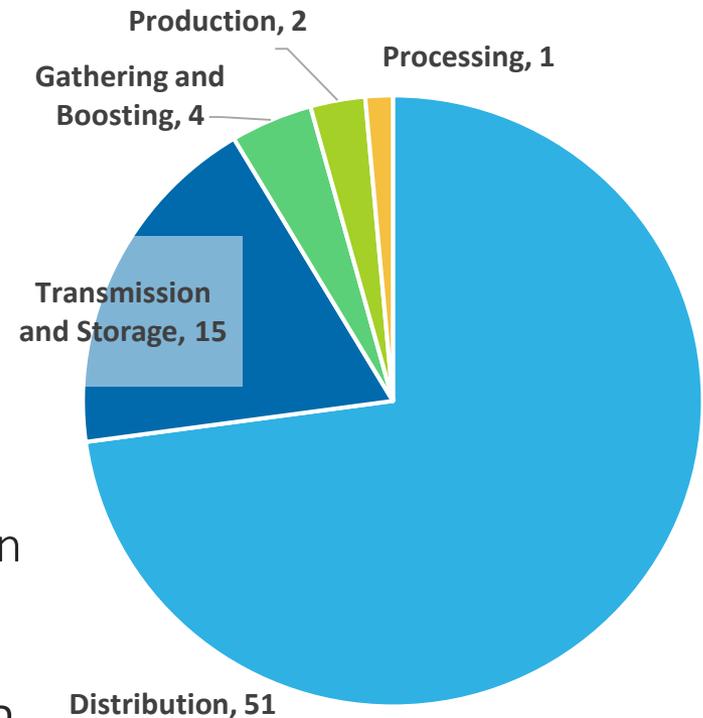


# Methane Challenge Highlights



- Two commitment options for enhanced flexibility:
  - Best Management Practice (BMP) Commitment
  - ONE Future Emissions Intensity Commitment
- Sector coverage:
  - Onshore oil production
  - Entire natural gas value chain from onshore production through distribution
- First round of reporting by Methane Challenge Partners is underway; data publication is anticipated later in 2019

**Methane Challenge Partners by Industry Segment**



# Program Benefits

- Opportunity for partner companies to demonstrate their commitment to improved efficiency and sustainability
- Cost-efficient best management practices and technologies reduce product loss and increase operational efficiency and safety
- Recognition for innovative approaches to reducing methane emissions
- Establishment of a permanent record of volunteer accomplishments in reducing methane emissions



**Learn more about what the U.S. EPA is doing at**  
<https://www.epa.gov/natural-gas-star-program>