# Policy implications of methane quantification studies

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## **EDF-catalyzed methane research**

#### Coordinated, Peer-reviewed Studies

Diverse research teams studying emissions across the supply chain, across multiple regions

#### **Multiple Methods**

Researches used a variety of aircraft, vehicle and ground-based measurements to quantify methane emitted across the oil and gas supply chain in U.S. and Canada.

#### **Significant Improvement in Data**

Nearly 40 articles published thus far in peer reviewed journals



'If we thought it was bad, it's worse:' Alberta badly underestimates methane emissions, new research shows

The difference between official estimates and the measured results suggests the province's energy industry could have to double its planned cuts





Drilling & Production



Gathering & Processing



Transmission & Storage



**Local Distribution** 



Regional Research

#### Lessons learned



#### **Higher Emissions**

- In some regions in the U.S. emissions were nearly 2x higher than official estimates
- At gathering stations, emissions were 8x higher than government estimates
- In Canada, emissions were measured to be 15x higher than what is reported to government



#### **Methods Agree**

 Top-down and bottom-up methods yield similar results, opening many measurement possibilities.



#### **Super Emitters**

- Recurring problem across U.S. and Canada
- Small % of sites account for significant emissions
- Unpredictable
- Not accounted for in official estimates



# **Policy implications**

- 1. Regulations work
- 2. Policies should be designed to capture higher emissions than what is reported.
- 3. Regulations drive innovation.

## Policy implication 1: Regulations work



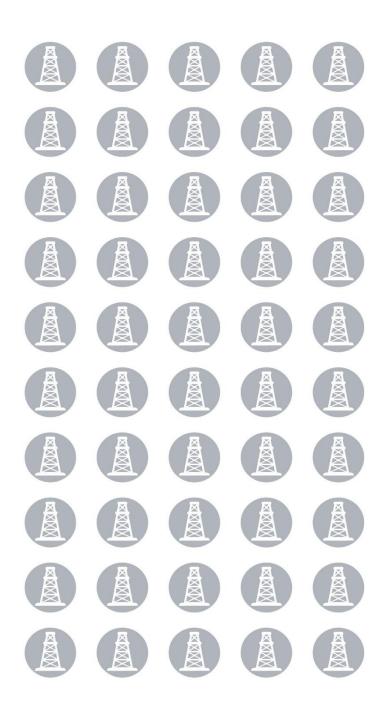
- Green Completions help reduce 99% of flowback emissions
- Processing plants subject to LDAR had lower emissions than other sources
- Regulation narrows range of company performance
- LDAR requirements only way to address super emitters

- National methane standards
- States with additional emissions/flaring standards or permits

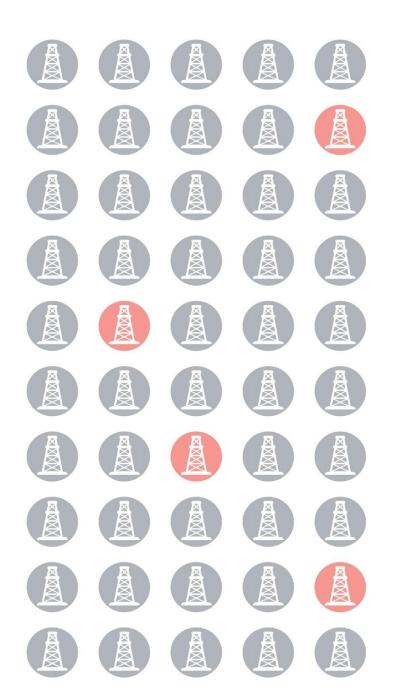
# Policy implication 2: Policies should be designed to capture higher emissions

- All regulatory approaches on methane are focused on equipment/sources.
- This approach can capture higher emissions.
- For areas with superemitters LDAR is key.
- Better measurement, monitoring, reporting, necessary to track progress

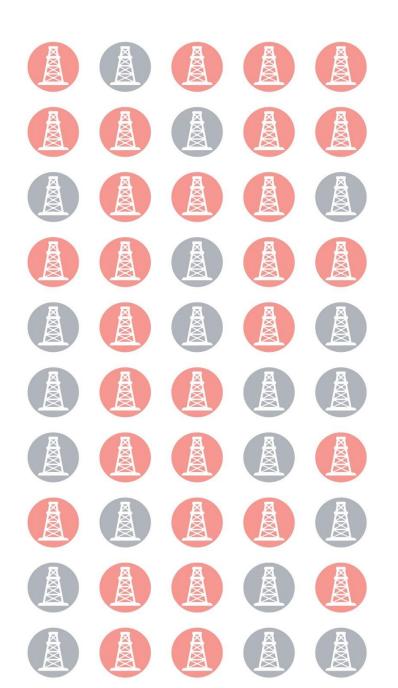




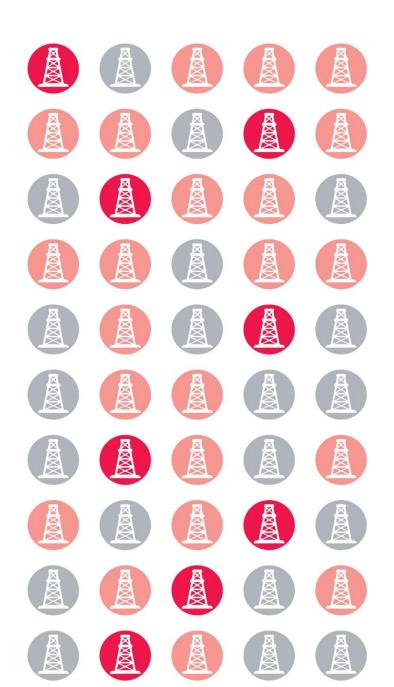
# EDF measured methane emissions at 50 Canadian well sites.



Industry reporting shows that just 8.5% of those measured sites would be out of compliance with the draft federal limits.



However, peer reviewed measurements from those sites indicate 64% would be out of compliance.



1/3 of these sites are super emitters, which aren't captured in traditional reporting systems. Hence need for strong LDAR.

## Policy implication 3: Regulations drive innovation

Unprecedented time of methane innovation

 Developing technologies and innovations make things cheaper, better faster

Methane Detectors Challenge

 Mobile Methane Monitoring Challenge

Methane Satellites

