

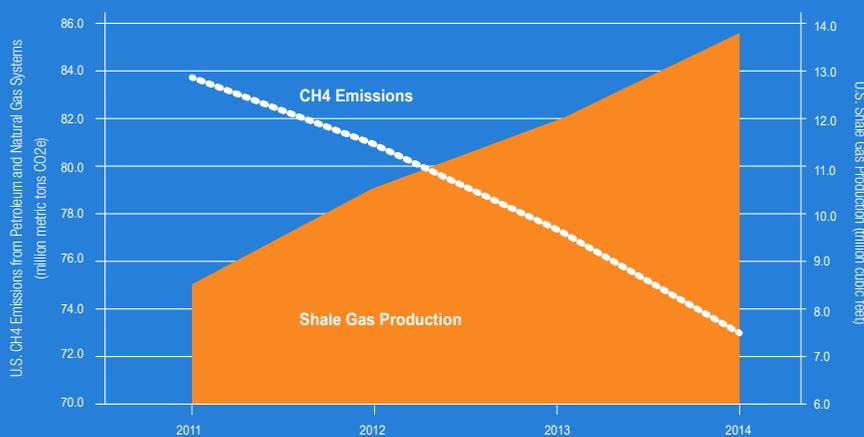


# ON NATURAL GAS PRODUCTION AND METHANE EMISSIONS

The oil and natural gas industry is substantially reducing methane emissions from oil and natural gas production and is expected to continue reducing emissions, according to the EPA. Methane emissions from the petroleum and natural gas systems sector have decreased by 13 percent since 2011, with the largest reductions coming from completions and workovers of hydraulically fractured natural gas wells, which have decreased by 83 percent during that period, according to the most recent [EPA data](#). U.S. oil and natural gas companies are leading the charge to reduce emissions by making investments in new technology developed by the industry, and these efforts are paying off.

## EPA Inventory of Greenhouse Gases

“ The decrease in CH<sub>4</sub> emissions is because of the large decrease in emissions from production and distribution. The decrease in production emissions is due to increased voluntary reductions. . . ”



### U.S. EPA administrator Gina McCarthy:

**“Responsible development of natural gas is an important part of our work to curb climate change.”**

While some call for new government-directed efforts to reduce emissions, industry is pushing ahead—through its own leadership and investments—and is achieving strong results. **America is leading the world in producing natural gas and reducing greenhouse gas emissions and that is not an accident.**

America's oil and natural gas industry has a long-standing commitment to safety and protecting the environment. Between 2000 and 2014, the industry [invested \\$90 billion in greenhouse gas-mitigating technologies](#). That's more than any other industry and nearly as much as the federal government (\$110.3 billion). The industry invested \$14.8 billion to develop domestic wind, solar, geothermal, biomass and other non-hydrocarbon resources between 2000 and 2014 – or one out of every six dollars invested in those areas.

### U.S. Secretary of Energy Ernest Moniz:

**“About half of that progress we have made [on greenhouse gas emissions] is from the natural gas boom.”**



# ON NATURAL GAS PRODUCTION AND METHANE EMISSIONS

**America's oil and natural gas industry is a leader in the effort** to reduce **GHG emissions**. Even while our companies are leading a domestic energy renaissance, creating jobs and growing the economy, they're setting the pace for reducing emissions. **Economic growth**—spurred by increased domestic oil and natural gas development—and reducing carbon emissions need not be mutually exclusive. **The U.S. is near twenty year lows in energy related emissions—not from pursuing policies of “less” but “more.”**

Berkeley professor Richard Muller:

**“[B]oth global warming and air pollution can be mitigated by the development and utilisation of shale gas”—therefore, “Environmentalists who oppose the development of shale gas and fracking are making a tragic mistake.”**

**Oil and natural gas companies are energy companies.** Oil and natural gas are the primary energy sources in this country and globally. But we should never forget the ongoing investments being made to find that next great breakthrough. We're major contributors in that effort, and as this study points out, we continue to improve our own emissions profile even as we provide more and more energy for the nation.

Unnecessary, and often duplicative, regulations are not necessary and could have **a chilling effect on the American energy** renaissance, which is, in fact, the goal for many of the groups calling for them.

Sierra Club Executive Director Michael Brune:

**“As we push to retire coal plants, we're going to work to make sure we're not simultaneously switching to natural-gas infrastructure. And we're going to be preventing new gas plants from being built wherever we can.”**

Fred Krupp, President of the Environmental Defense Fund:

**“I would say that I don't think the Environmental Defense Fund nor anyone in the environmental community who cares about this issue should be promoting the use of natural gas...I think we should be doing whatever we can to avoid excessive lock-in in new natural gas plants.”**

While regulation as a club may appeal to some environmentalists, it is the American people, our economy, and our national security that will take the blow. **The conversation about our energy future needs to be robust, and it needs to be fact-based.**

**We welcome all to that discussion.**