



COALBED METHANE EXTRA

A publication of the Coalbed Methane Outreach Program (CMOP)

www.epa.gov/cmop



EPA Finds Greenhouse Gases Threaten Public Health

After a thorough examination of the scientific evidence and careful consideration of public comments, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced on December 7, 2009 that greenhouse gases (GHGs) threaten the public health and welfare of the American people. EPA also finds that GHG emissions from on-road vehicles contribute to that threat.

EPA's endangerment finding under section 202(a) of the Clean Air Act covers emissions of six key greenhouse gases – carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons and sulfur hexafluoride – that have been the subject of scrutiny and intense analysis for decades by scientists in the United States and around the world.

GHGs are the primary driver of climate change, which can lead to hotter, longer heat waves that threaten the health of the sick, poor or elderly; increases in ground-level ozone pollution linked to asthma and other respiratory illnesses; as well as other

threats to the health and welfare of Americans.

“These long-overdue findings cement 2009’s place in history as the year when the United States Government began addressing the challenge of greenhouse-gas pollution and seizing the opportunity of clean-energy reform,” said EPA Administrator Lisa P. Jackson. “Business leaders, security experts, government officials, concerned citizens and the United States Supreme Court have called for enduring, pragmatic solutions to reduce the greenhouse gas pollution that is causing climate change. This continues our work towards clean energy reform that will cut GHGs and reduce the dependence on foreign oil that threatens our national security and our economy.”

EPA’s final findings respond to the 2007 U.S. Supreme Court decision that GHGs fit within the Clean Air Act definition of air

See **EPA GHG Finding** on page 4

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U.S. - China Clean Energy Cooperation

A recent agreement on a joint U.S. - Chinese project to generate electricity from ventilation air methane (VAM) at a Chinese coal mine was one of many clean energy initiatives included in a recent announcement made by President Obama and Chinese President Hu Jintao, on measures to strengthen U.S. - China Clean Energy cooperation. The announcement, made on November 17, detailed seven key areas where U.S. - China cooperation is ongoing:

- 1) The U.S.-China Clean Energy Research Center will facilitate joint research and development of clean energy technologies by teams of scientists and engineers from the United States and China and serve as a clearinghouse to help researchers in each country.
- 2) The U.S - China Electric Vehicles Initiative will include joint standards development, demonstration projects in more than a dozen cities, technical roadmapping and public education projects.
- 3) The U.S. - China Energy Efficiency Action Plan details how the two countries will work together to improve the energy efficiency of buildings, industrial facilities, and consumer appliances.
- 4) The U.S. - China Renewable Energy Partnership aims to develop roadmaps for wide-spread renewable energy deployment in both countries.

See **U.S.-China Clean Energy Cooperation** on page 2

U.S.-China Clean Energy Cooperation, *from page 1*

5) 21st Century Coal - The two Presidents pledged to promote cooperation on cleaner uses of coal, including large-scale carbon capture and storage (CCS) demonstration projects. Through the new U.S.-China Clean Energy Research Center, the two countries are launching a program of technical cooperation to bring teams of U.S. and Chinese scientists and engineers together to develop clean coal and CCS technologies. The two governments are also actively engaging industry, academia, and civil society in advancing clean coal and CCS solutions.

The Presidents welcomed:

- (i) a grant from the U.S. Trade and Development Agency to the China Power Engineering and Consulting Group Corporation. The grant will support a feasibility study for an integrated gasification combined cycle (IGCC) power plant in China using American technology,
 - (ii) an agreement by Missouri-based Peabody Energy to invest and participate in GreenGen, a project of several major Chinese energy companies to develop a near-zero emissions coal-fired power plant,
 - (iii) an agreement between GE and Shenhua Corporation to collaborate on the development and deployment of integrated gasification combined cycle (IGCC) and other clean coal technologies; and
 - (iv) an agreement between AES and Songzao Coal and Electric Company to use methane captured from a coal mine in Chongqing, China, to generate electricity and reduce greenhouse gas emissions (see the following AES-China VAM agreement article).
- 6) The Shale Gas Initiative will use the U.S.'s experience to assess China's shale gas potential and promote environmentally-sustainable development of shale gas resources.
- 7) The U.S. - China Clean Energy Cooperation Program will leverage private sector resources for project development work in China across a broad array of collaborative clean energy projects

AES China VAM Agreement

AES Climate Solutions Asia has entered into a partnership with Shenzhen Dongjiang Environmental Renewable Power Company Ltd. and Songzao Coal and Electricity Company Ltd., a wholly owned subsidiary of Chongqing Energy Investment Group. The partnership will invest, construct and operate a coal mine Ventilation Air Methane (VAM) project.

The agreement was formalized in the Great Hall of the People, Beijing, as part of the U.S. China Clean Energy Cooperation Pro-

gram signing ceremony on November 17, 2009. Honored guests attending the event included Dr. Steven Chu, U.S. Secretary of Energy, China Vice President Li Keqiang, and China Minister of Science and Technology, Wan Gang.

“The VAM project uses proven, commercially available technology, and is an example of how U.S. and Chinese companies can work together to reduce emissions,” said Paul Hanrahan, AES President and Chief Executive Officer.

The VAM project, located at the Datong coal mine in Chongqing municipality, will be one of the first commercially operating facilities of its kind in China, and is expected to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by up to 200,000 tons of CO₂ equivalent per year. The VAM project is expected to start construction in the first quarter of next year and to commence operations by the end of 2010.

Underground coalmines emit ventilation air, which contains methane within its exhaust stream. The VAM project will use MEGTEC's VOCSIDIZER™ technology, which captures and destroys about 95 percent of methane within the exhaust stream before it is released into the atmosphere.

The project will be developed under the guidelines of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change's Clean Development Mechanism, which encourages the private sector and developing countries to contribute to emission reduction efforts.

With a presence in China since 1994, AES currently operates nine power plants in seven provinces and municipalities with a total generation capacity of 2,675 MW. AES China is pursuing several other VAM project opportunities which are under discussion with Chongqing Energy Investment Group as well as Dongjiang and others.



Ian McInnes, Managing Director Climate Solutions, AES China (seated at left) signs the VAM agreement with Chinese partners



Methane to Markets Update

2010 Grant Solicitation for Activities to Advance Methane Recovery and Use as a Clean Energy Source

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency intends to issue a grant solicitation in January 2010 to fund projects and activities that support the Methane to Markets Partnership. Through this solicitation, U.S. EPA expects to award cooperative agreements ranging from \$100,000 to \$750,000 per award, for up to a total of \$5 million.

The Partnership is an international initiative to reduce global methane emissions by promoting methane capture-and-use projects in four major sectors including agriculture (manure management), coal mining, landfills, and oil and gas systems.

Organizations eligible for this grant include:

- International governments
- Not-for-profit organizations
- States
- Local Governments
- Universities

Organizations not eligible for this grant include:

- For-profit organizations
- U.S. federal agencies

The estimated project period for awards is October 2010 through October 2013.

EPA seeks proposals that will promote project development in the following Methane to Market Partner countries:

Argentina - Brazil - Bulgaria - Chile - China - Colombia - Dominican Republic - Ecuador - Georgia - India - Kazakhstan - Korea (Rep. of) - Mexico - Mongolia - Nigeria - Pakistan - Philippines - Poland - Russia - Thailand - Ukraine - Vietnam

News of the official announcement will be coming soon on the Methane to Markets websites at: www.methanetomarkets.org and www.epa.gov/methanetomarkets

Methane to Markets Coal Sector Subcommittee Meeting, Geneva, Switzerland

A Methane to Markets (M2M) Coal Sector Subcommittee meeting was held at the Palais des Nations on October 12-13, 2009, in conjunction with a meeting of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Ad Hoc Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane.

The M2M Coal Sector Subcommittee meeting was chaired by China, India, and the U.S. The discussion focused primarily on preparations for the 2010 Methane to Markets Partnership Expo, which will be held in New Delhi India on March 2-5, 2010. See page 9 for more information on the preliminary agenda for the Expo sessions, registration and hotel information, and sponsorship and exhibit opportunities.

The Subcommittee heard the outcomes from the recent M2M Steering Committee meeting, considered topics for a coal technical and policy track for the Expo, and discussed how countries would support the Expo. Ten Partner governments were represented at the meeting (Australia, China, the European Commission, Germany, India, Poland, Russia, the United Kingdom, the United States, and Ukraine) along with multiple participants from the Project Network and representatives from non-Partner countries Austria, Spain, South Africa, and Sweden.

Presentations from the M2M Coal Sector Subcommittee and the UNECE Ad Hoc Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane can be found online on the [M2M](#) and [UNECE](#) websites.

Over \$3 Million M2M Partnership Grants Awarded to Help Fight Climate Change

In November, the U.S. EPA announced the award of approximately \$3.3 million to fund projects and activities that work to advance methane recovery and use as a clean energy source through the Methane to Markets Partnership in Argentina, Brazil, Bulgaria, China, Colombia, India, Mexico, Nigeria, Philippines, Poland, and Russia. An additional \$800,000 will be awarded in the coming weeks to support international methane reduction work in several of the countries listed above as well as in Chile and Ukraine.

The award of this series of grants is the result of a December 2008 solicitation issued by EPA and provides significant new funding for methane capture and use projects and activities in the landfill, coal, agriculture, and oil & gas sectors, as well as cross-cutting projects.

These assistance agreements are being awarded to support a variety of Partnership activities designed to remove technical or informational barriers to successful methane capture and use projects around the world. Funded projects include training and capacity building, development of databases and information

See **M2M Partnership Grants**, on page 4



Methane to Markets Update

M2M Partnership Grants, from page 3

clearinghouses for potential sites, feasibility studies, technology transfer, and project expositions.

The grants relating to methane recovery from the coal sector are listed below:

- \$199,805 to China University of Petroleum, Beijing to study “The Capacity for CBM/CMM Development and Utilization by Integrative Technologies of Coal Mining and Methane Extraction.”
- \$180,000 to the China Coal Information Institute (CCII) for a “Technical Assessment of Coal Mine Gas Recovery and Utilization in China.”
- \$400,000 to the University of Colorado to study “Methane Emissions from Abandoned Coal Mines in China.”
- \$153,695 to Southern Illinois University Carbondale for a project titled “Assessment of Sealed Off Areas at Moonidih mine, India.”
- \$210,729 to Guizhou International Cooperation for a “Coal Mine Methane (CMM) Recovery and Utilization Initiative In Guizhou Province, China.”

The remaining grants can be seen on the [Methane to Markets Grants webpage](#).

USTDA Promotes CMM/CBM Capture in India and Georgia

On September 28, 2009, the United States Trade and Development Agency (USTDA) announced the award of two grants to study methane emission reduction projects in India and Georgia. The projects propose to use captured coal bed methane and coal mine methane (CBM/CMM) to produce energy.

A \$524,819 grant has been awarded to AES (India) Private Limited (AES India) to fund a feasibility study on a proposal to capture and use CBM/CMM from the company’s coal mine block in Chhattisgarh, India. The innovative project will demonstrate the practical opportunities for U.S. and India technical and business cooperation in reducing the release of potent greenhouse gases as India expands its domestic energy production. It also supports recent U.S. and Indian government commitments to cooperate on climate change strategies while supporting continued economic and energy sector growth.

In Georgia, USTDA expanded its commitment to the Georgian

International Energy Corporation (GIEC) as it progresses with plans to capture CBM in the Vale coal basin to produce energy. The \$284,342 commitment builds on a previous USTDA grant to GIEC that is funding a feasibility study on the potential for CBM production in the Tkubuli-Shaori coal basin.

Information on these two grants can be found on the [USTDA website](#).

EPA Greenhouse Gases Finding

EPA GHG Finding, from page 1

pollutants. The findings do not in and of themselves impose any emission reduction requirements. Rather, they allow EPA to finalize the GHG standards proposed earlier this year for new light-duty vehicles as part of the joint rulemaking with the Department of Transportation.

On-road vehicles contribute more than 23 percent of total U.S. GHG emissions. EPA’s proposed GHG standards for light-duty vehicles, a subset of on-road vehicles, would reduce GHG emissions by nearly 950 million metric tons and conserve 1.8 billion barrels of oil over the lifetime of model year 2012-2016 vehicles.

Scientific consensus shows that as a result of human activities, GHG concentrations in the atmosphere are at record high levels and data shows that the Earth has been warming over the past 100 years, with the steepest increase in warming in recent decades. The evidence of human-induced climate change goes beyond observed increases in average surface temperatures; it includes melting ice in the Arctic, melting glaciers around the world, increasing ocean temperatures, rising sea levels, acidification of the oceans due to excess carbon dioxide, changing precipitation patterns, and changing patterns of ecosystems and wildlife.

President Obama and Administrator Jackson have publicly stated that they support a legislative solution to the problem of climate change and Congress’ efforts to pass comprehensive climate legislation. However, climate change is threatening public health and welfare, and it is critical that EPA fulfill its obligation to respond to the 2007 U.S. Supreme Court ruling that determined that greenhouse gases fit within the Clean Air Act definition of air pollutants.

EPA issued the proposed findings in April 2009 and held a 60-day public comment period. The agency received more than 380,000 comments, which were carefully reviewed and considered during the development of the final findings.

Information on EPA’s findings can be found on the [EPA Climate Change web site](#).

New Publications

New Methane to Markets Publications

Methane to Markets Partnership Accomplishments 2004-2009

The international Methane to Markets Partnership (M2M) has published its first ever partnership-wide accomplishments report, including the activities of its 31 partner governments.

The report was compiled and produced by the Methane to Markets Administrative Support Group housed at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, with participation from all 31 partner governments.

Since the partnership began in 2004, it has grown from 14 to 31 members, collaborated on more than 170 projects, and is now achieving reductions of 27 million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent annually.

The partnership has also held more than 80 events in 23 countries, generated \$84 million in direct funding, and leveraged more than \$350 million in private financing for capacity building and project development. The report also details M2M's future growth and events planned.

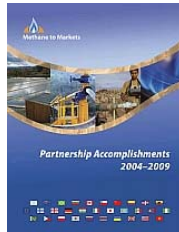
[Partnership Accomplishments 2004-2009](#), December 2009.

U.S. Government's Methane to Markets Partnership Accomplishments – Fourth Annual Report

EPA released its fourth annual report showing the U.S. federal government's international leadership in capturing and using methane, a potent greenhouse gas, as a clean energy source through the Methane to Markets Partnership.

The report was developed collaboratively by EPA, the U.S. Department of State, the U.S. Agency for International Development, the U.S. Department of Energy, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the U.S. Trade and Development Agency.

To date, the U.S. has provided approximately \$40 million to support a wide range of projects and activities, including pre-feasibility and feasibility studies at potential project sites; continuing to address market, institutional, and other barriers to project development; and building capacity through technology transfer and training. U.S. investments have leveraged approximately \$278 million in public and private sector contributions.



These efforts will lead to the future implementation of full-scale projects in many Partner Countries, which, when fully implemented, will deliver estimated annual emissions reductions of more than 61 million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (MMT_{CO₂E}). These projects are already delivering reductions of 26.7 MMT_{CO₂E}.

[U.S. Government's Methane to Markets Partnership Accomplishments – Fourth Annual Report](#), 21 October 2009.

U.S. Coal Mine Methane Conference Presentations Available Online

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Coalbed Methane Outreach Program (CMOP) held its 2009 U.S. Coal Mine Methane Conference from September 30 – October 1, 2009, in Boulder, Colorado USA.

The U.S. Coal Mine Methane Conference continues to grow, with more than 160 people in attendance. This year's event featured top-notch speakers from around the world who shared their insight on many aspects of methane gas recovery and use, new technology, and legal and financial issues. Additionally, this year's expanded exhibit hall featured 20 vendors and service providers providing important networking opportunities.

Presentations from the conference covered a range of CMM related topics including policy and legal updates, VAM technology, AMM recovery, CMM capture technology, and updates on international CMM projects. All the presentations are now available online on the [CMOP website](#).

New International Energy Agency Publication

Coal Mine Methane in Russia: Capturing the Safety and Environmental Benefits (Information Paper)

This information paper assesses Russia's current coal production and its plans for the future; reviews the impact of these on current and future emissions of coal mine methane; explains the Russian policy framework for CMM, including responsible authorities and regulations; explores the key drivers for increased recovery and use of CMM and the barriers to achieving this; summarizes the experience of other countries; and draws conclusions on policy measures that Russia could consider to encourage increased recovery and use of CMM.

[Coal Mine Methane in Russia](#), December 2009.

Forthcoming will be available in Russian as well on the [IEA website](#).



CBM/CMM News

China Coal Mine Explosion

A build up of methane gas at a coal mine in Heilongjiang Province in northern China caused an explosion on November 21, which killed 104 miners and injured 65. The accident at the state-owned Xinxing mine was China's worst coal mine disaster in two years. Officials at the State Administration of Work Safety blamed the high death toll on mine overcrowding and a management failure to evacuate miners quickly after high methane levels were detected.

The mine has an annual production capacity of 1.45 million tonnes and emits high concentrations of methane during mining. Analysts believe the explosion may spur the Chinese government to order a second nationwide safety check of all coal mines, with a resultant negative impact on coal supply. This follows a check in September after a mine explosion in Henan Province.

The state has intensified checks on as many as 10,000 mines in 2009 and forced the closure of smaller producers. About 150 small mines were shut at the end of last year in Heilongjiang on safety concerns. Nationwide, China's death toll from coal mine accidents fell 12 percent in the first seven months of 2009 from a year earlier, after the government closed small pits to improve safety, according to the State Administration of Work Safety.

Source: [Bloomberg News](#)

Chesapeake Energy Selected for EPA's Natural Gas STAR Award

Chesapeake Energy Corporation has been selected by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as the Natural Gas STAR Production Partner of the Year. Chesapeake employee Andrew McCalmont also received the Implementation

Manager of the Year award from the EPA. The Natural Gas STAR Program is a flexible, voluntary partnership that encourages oil and natural gas companies to adopt cost-effective technologies and practices that improve operational efficiency and reduce emissions of methane.

Each year, EPA recognizes the efforts and achievements of outstanding Natural Gas STAR partners during a special awards luncheon at the Program's Annual Implementation Workshop. Recognition is based on methane emission reductions achieved, implementation of a variety of technologies and practices, and support of Program activities, initiatives, and outreach. To be eligible, partners must submit an annual report to EPA each spring. One Partner of the Year award is generally named in each major natural gas sector: production, processing, transmission and distribution.

Suzie Waltzer, EPA Natural Gas STAR Program Coordinator in Washington D.C., said, "As the nation's most active driller and one of the largest producers of natural gas in the U.S., we greatly appreciate Chesapeake's overall strong participation in the Natural Gas STAR Program."

"Since joining in 2007, Chesapeake has reported significant methane emissions reduction totals to the EPA through implementation of a broad range of voluntary cost-effective technologies and practices resulting in increased revenue and reductions of methane emissions to the atmosphere. The Natural Gas STAR program is only successful because of the strong support of our partner companies such as Chesapeake, who are willing to implement methane emissions reduction activities and generously share their successes with the program. We look forward to continued collaboration with Chesapeake under the Natural Gas STAR Program in support

of our mutual environmental goals," Waltzer said.

The other 2009 Partner of the Year Awards went to Western Gas Resources, Spectra Energy Transmission and Southwest Gas Corporation. Further information on the EPA program is available at the [EPA Gas Star website](#).

Australian Coal Mines Recognized for Methane Mitigation Plans

Several Australian mines involved in efforts to reduce methane emissions at their operations were among finalists in the 6th annual Australian Mining Prospect Awards, which aim to encourage, recognize and reward excellence in the Australian mining industry.

Anglo Coal Australia's Moranbah North Mine in Queensland was recognized for its efforts to mitigate methane emissions and increase productivity with new technology. The company launched a joint venture with Energy Developments Limited (EDL) to build a 45 MW power station next to the mine which converts coal mine gas into clean electricity.

The \$60 million power station was officially opened in September 2009 with mine gas powering 15 3MW engines to provide base load power to the grid, with the effect of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by more than 1.3 million tonnes of CO₂e annually, the equivalent of taking 330,000 cars off the road. The power plant is said to be one of the first to create renewable energy certificates under the Australian Federal Government's recently passed Renewable Energy Target legislation that comes into effect in 2011. The project is the second time Anglo Coal and EDL had come together to reduce emissions, with another power station previously opened at German Creek in 2007, also located in Queensland's Bowen Basin.

(Continued on page 7)



CBM/CMM News

(Continued from page 6)

Rio Tinto's Mt. Thorley Warkworth mine, in New South Wales' Hunter Valley region, was also recognized for its work towards reducing its carbon footprint. The mine has been working on a \$5.5 million trial coal bed methane project, which is designed to pre-drain and capture the greenhouse gases released during mining. Fugitive methane emissions account for more than 60% of the mine's total footprint. Initially, the project will burn off the gas as it is produced, but there is also a long-term goal to use the waste gas as a clean source of electricity. The company hopes the trial will lead to similar projects at its other mines in the Hunter Valley and around Australia.

Source: www.miningaustralia.com.au

Botswana to add 250 MW via gas and coal bed methane plants

In his November State of the Nation address, Botswana President Ian Khama announced the addition of 250 MW of much needed capacity to Botswana's power grid via two integrated gas and coal bed methane power plants.

President Khama said the project involved the development of an integrated 250 MW open-cycle gas turbine and coal bed methane power plant fed by substations situated at Orapa for 90 MW and the Mmashoro area for 160 MW. The manufacturing of two 45 MW turbines is already in progress and it is hoped that the plant will begin to make a contribution by August 2010 using liquid fuels.

President Khama said there were other long-term measures to exploit Botswana's abundant coal resources including the planned construction of a 1200 MW power station at Mmamabula. He said progress at this project has been

modest due to protracted negotiations with off takers.

Botswana imports 350 MW from South Africa, which will be reduced to 250 MW in December, and President Khama explained that the provision of electricity would remain under stress until the ongoing Phase One expansion of Morupule Power Station was completed in 2012, which would add 600 MW of power with another 600 MW to be added with Phase Two of the project. He explained that Morupule Power Station presently contributes only 120 MW of the 500 MW of the electricity Botswana consumes while the balance is being imported from South Africa and Mozambique.

Source: [Botswana Gazette](#)

UK Coal Awarded Carbon Trust Standard

Mining company UK Coal has been awarded the Carbon Trust Standard after taking action to reduce the carbon footprint of its operations. It achieved a 45% absolute reduction in its carbon footprint over the past three years which represents a greenhouse gas reduction of 980,000 t of CO₂.

Measures taken by the company include:

1. Using methane extracted from mines for safety reasons to generate electricity. Methane generation has increased by 119% over the last three years, from 75.8 GWh to 165.8 GWh, following a £15 million investment in gas turbines. Methane is a potent greenhouse gas with a global warming potential 21 times that of CO₂.
2. Upgrading the fleet of vehicles used in surface mining with engines which have improved fuel efficiency by 13.7%. Company cars are now fuelled by diesel rather than petrol.
3. The installation of a new high efficient booster fan at Welbeck Colliery at a cost

of £480,000 that almost doubled air ventilation flow whilst reducing energy consumption.

4. Installing variable speed drive motors on high-power coal cutting equipment and coal conveyance systems at mines to reduce energy consumption.

5. Introduced a Teflon additive to greases and oils to prolong the life cycle of components, reduce frictional losses and achieve energy savings.

The Carbon Trust was set up by the British Government in 2001 as an independent company which works with business and public sector bodies to cut carbon emissions and commercialize low carbon technologies. The Carbon Trust Standard is awarded only to companies that pass rigorous, independent investigation into the measures they are taking that have a direct beneficial impact on reducing their carbon footprint and their environmental impact.

Source: www.carbonoffsetsdaily.com

Climate Legislation Makes Slow Progress in Senate

After the U.S. House of Representatives narrowly approved a sweeping climate and energy bill in June ([H.R. 2454](#)), a Senate climate change bill, the "Clean Energy Jobs and American Power Act" ([S.1733](#)) sponsored by Senators Kerry and Boxer, is making slow progress through Senate committees.

The [Environment and Public Works Committee](#) approved a cap-and-trade plan in early November, but major portions of the bill are expected to be revised as it passes through other committees working on the areas of the bill under their jurisdiction. Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid hopes to bring a major climate change package to the floor next spring.

Source: www.kerry.senate.gov



U.S. News

CMM Projects Now Eligible to Register with the Climate Action Reserve



**CLIMATE
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The Climate Action Reserve Board of Directors unanimously adopted the [Coal Mine Methane \(CMM\) Project Protocol v1.0](#) at its meeting on October 7, 2009.

Climate Action Reserve (CAR) is a non-profit green house gas (GHG) offsets registry which aims to develop high-quality project standards; register and track offset credits in a public online system; and ensure the environmental integrity and quality of offset credits.

The CMM Project Protocol provides a standardized approach for quantifying, monitoring and verifying GHG reductions from projects that destroy methane at active underground coal mines in the United States.

The first version of the protocol covers ventilation air methane (VAM) projects and non-pipeline drainage projects, and incentivizes coal mines to destroy or utilize CMM that is currently removed from the mines and vented into the atmosphere for safety reasons. The aim of the protocol is to maintain consistency with, or improve upon, existing methodologies and ensure the accuracy and practicality of the projects.

CAR has worked closely with a multi-stakeholder workgroup throughout the protocol development process. The workgroup includes industry representatives, federal agency personnel, NGOs, verifiers and expert consultants. This group of stakeholders reviewed and commented on Version 1.0 of the protocol.

The workgroup is now working with CAR staff on producing Version 2.0, which will include drainage projects that send CMM to sales pipelines. Version 2.0 of the protocol is expected to be completed in 2010.

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CBM Notes, go to
www.epa.gov/cmop/join/index.html
to sign-up now

Upcoming CBM/CMM Events

11th Southern Africa Energy Week 2010

8-10 February, 2010
Johannesburg, South Africa
Contact: babette@glopac.com
Web site: www.petro21.com

Second Methane to Markets Partnership Expo!

2-5 March, 2010
Taj Palace Hotel, New Delhi, India
Web site: www.methanetomarkets.org/expo

Asia Pacific Partnership Coal Mining Task Force

10-12 March, 2010
Newcastle, Australia
Web site: www.asiapacificpartnership.org
Email: APP_ASG@state.gov

Coal Seam Methane World Australia 2010

16-18 March, 2010
Hilton Brisbane, Australia
Web site: www.terrapinn.com/2010/csm/

3rd CBM World (CoalBed Methane)

23-24 March, 2010
Hong Kong
Web site: www.cmtevents.com/

13th North American Mine Ventilation Symposium

13-17 June, 2010
Sudbury, Ontario, Canada
Web site: www.mirarco.org/minevent

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Register Now for

The Second Methane to Markets Partnership Expo

Taj Palace Hotel, New Delhi, India

March 2-5, 2010

Join the world's largest forum for Methane Projects, Technology, Financing and Policy

The Methane to Markets Partnership Expo is the premier international forum for promoting methane recovery and use project opportunities and technologies. At the 2010 Expo, we anticipate welcoming over 1,000 participants and featuring more than 100 potential methane capture and use project opportunities!

The Expo provides participants with opportunities to:

- Showcase methane mitigation projects and technologies
- Meet with potential project partners and financiers
- Learn about the latest project opportunities, technologies, and services
- Explore key technical, financial, and policy issues
- Interact with high-level government agencies from 28 countries

The last Expo took place in Beijing, China in 2007 and included over 750 participants from 34 countries, 91 featured methane capture and use project opportunities, and numerous international exhibitors.

Agenda and Registration

The Expo's comprehensive program will feature four sector-specific conference tracks discussing key methane capture and use technologies and policy issues as well as key barriers to project development and how to overcome them. A Methane Marketplace will include methane recovery and use projects ready for immediate financing or implementation, as well as technology providers showcasing the latest products and services. Partnership working meetings will include government and industry discussions on how Methane to Markets can effectively promote capture and use projects and activities around the world. A preliminary [agenda](#) is now available on the Methane to Markets website, as well as an opportunity to [register](#).

Sponsorship and Exhibit Opportunities

We welcome inquiries from potential Expo sponsors. The Expo provides an unprecedented opportunity for companies to present themselves to high-level decision makers from around the world. For more information on sponsorship opportunities please contact the Methane to Markets [Administrative Support Group](#).

Incredible India and the Taj Palace Hotel

The 2010 Expo will be held at the Taj Palace Hotel in New Delhi, India, one of the premiere hotels in all of India. The hotel is nestled on six acres of lush park in the exclusive Diplomatic Enclave of the city, just minutes away from the airport.

The Methane to Markets Partnership is an international partnership of 28 governments and more than 850 public and private sector organizations committed to developing methane capture and use projects in the agriculture, coal mining, landfill, and oil and gas sectors. For more information on the Methane to Markets Partnership Expo, please visit our web site.

We look forward to seeing you in New Delhi!