



**Maryland**  
Department of  
the Environment

# Minimizing Methane Emissions from the Natural Gas Industry



**Joshua Shodeinde, Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE)**  
**ONE Future Methane & Climate Strategies Event**

**May 21, 2019**



# Maryland Commission on Climate Change

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- In 2007, The Maryland Commission on Climate Change (MCCC) was established by Executive Order
  - MCCC was codified into law in 2015
- Basic charge of the MCCC:
  - Provide recommendations on how to reduce GHG emissions and adapt to the impacts of climate change



# Greenhouse Gas Reduction Act (GGRA)

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- Originally adopted in 2009
- Required that Maryland develop and implement a plan to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 25% by 2020
- The law also requires that the plan support a healthy economy and create new jobs
- Refreshed by the General Assembly in 2016 to add an additional goal for 2030
  - 40 % GHG reduction by 2030
  - Same focus on the economy and jobs





# MCCC Recommendations

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- On November 15, 2016 the MCCC issued its annual report
- The report included over forty recommendations on mitigation, adaptation and education, communication and outreach
- One was specific to in-state methane emission reductions:
  - *“... the MCCC supports MDE’s efforts to reduce methane emissions from landfills, natural gas infrastructure (e.g. compressor stations and underground storage), and waste water treatment plants, and recommends further research into additional sources such as agriculture and fuel production/transport”.*





# US Climate Alliance

- Maryland joined the U.S. Climate Alliance (USCA) on January 10, 2018
  - Originally, an alliance of 12 states ... now 24 states
- Basic mission: to meet the goals of the Paris Climate Agreement, aiming to reduce GHG emissions by at least 26-28 percent below 2005 levels by 2025
- One working group is focused on short-lived climate pollutants.





# MDE Actions

## PHASE 1

**Production**

Ban on hydraulic fracturing



## Phase 2

**Transmission and Storage**

Currently drafting regulations



## Phase 3

**Distribution**

Under review



# MD Transmission Sector Sources

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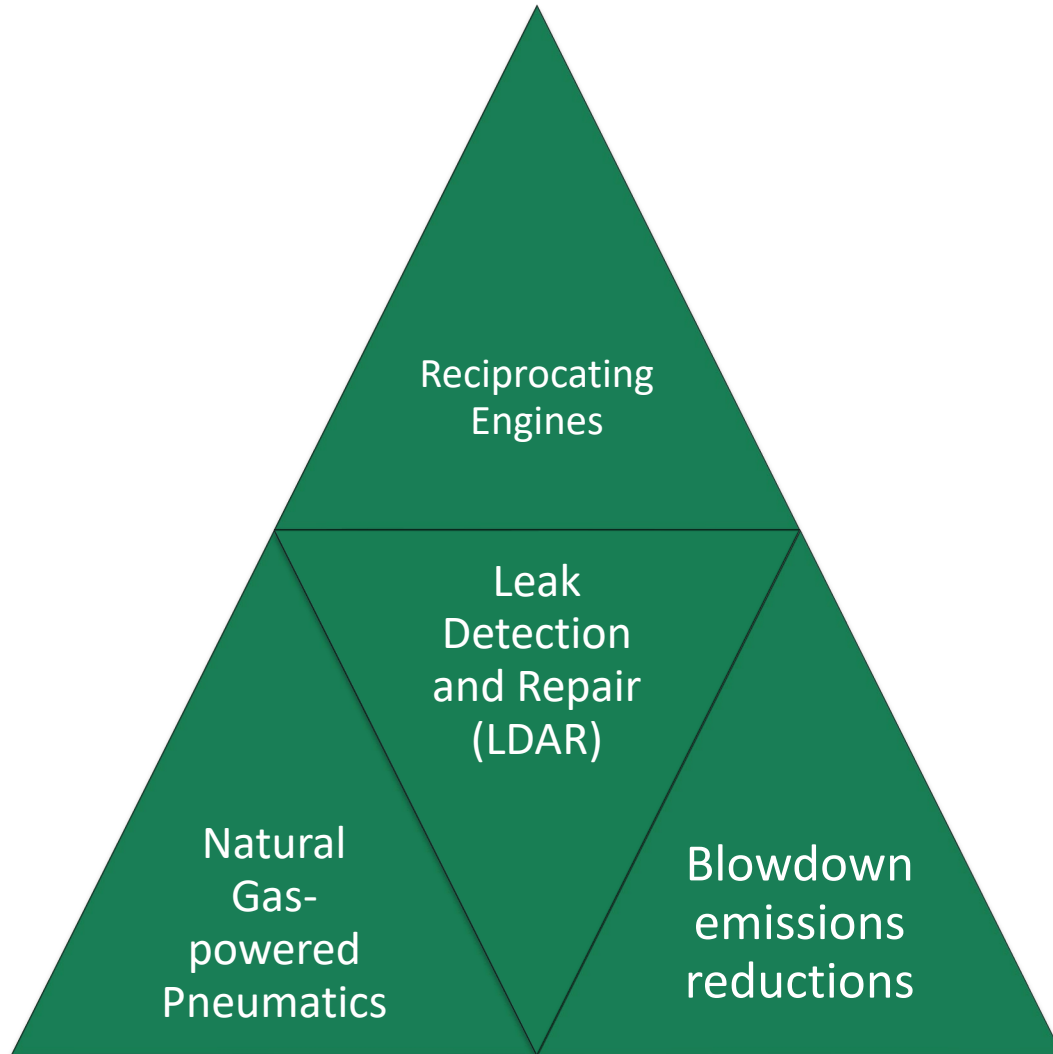
- Four compressor stations
  - Dominion, Myersville
  - Texas Eastern, Accident
  - TransCanada, Rutledge
  - Transco, Ellicott City
- One underground storage facility
  - Texas Eastern, Accident
- One import and liquefaction/export facility
  - Dominion, Cove Point





# Part I: Regulatory (Under Consideration)

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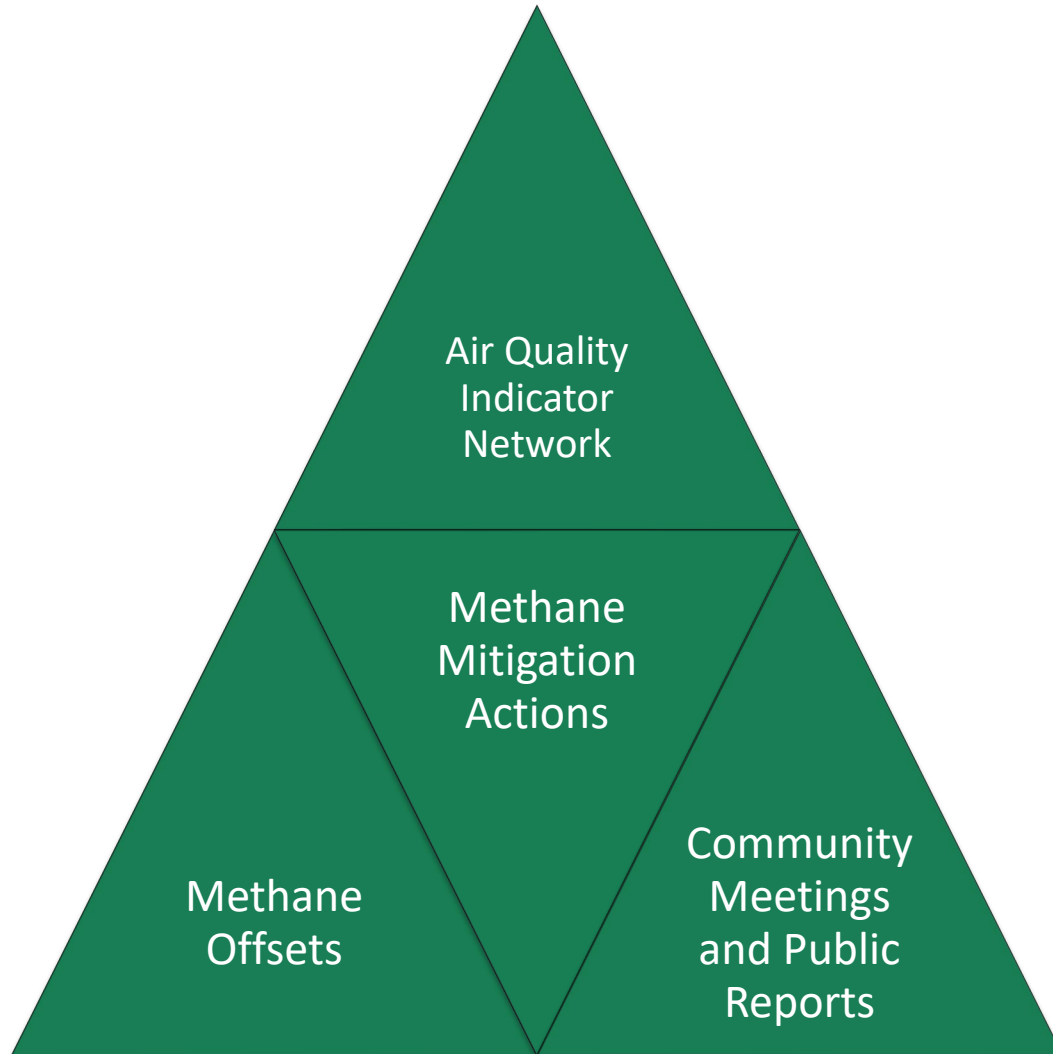






## Part II: Voluntary (Under Consideration)

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# Summary

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- MCCC, GGRA, and USCA are driving forces to MDE actions
  - Also interest from surrounding communities
- MDE intends to evaluate and address methane emissions across entire natural gas chain
- Contact Information:

Joshua Shodeinde

[Joshua.Shodeinde@maryland.gov](mailto:Joshua.Shodeinde@maryland.gov)

410-537-3866