

EPA's Natural Gas STAR Program



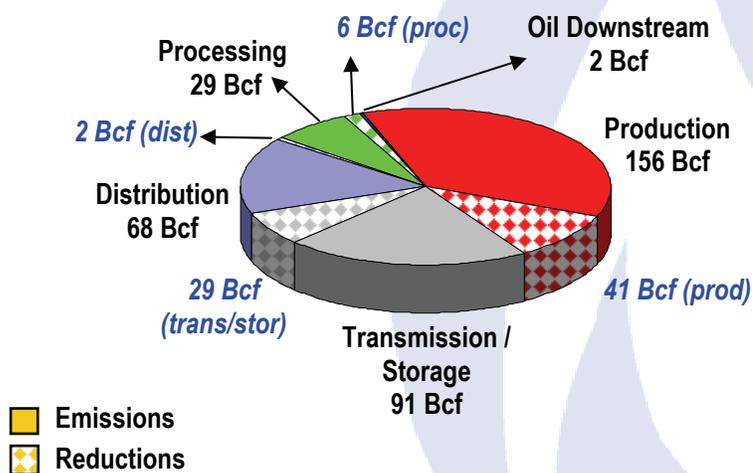
The Southern Gas Association and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency work together to protect the environment and enhance industry profitability

Since 1998, the Southern Gas Association (SGA) has been an official endorser of the Natural Gas STAR Program, a voluntary partnership between EPA and the oil and gas industry designed to cost-effectively reduce methane emissions. Together, SGA and Natural Gas STAR are working to promote a common goal of cost effectively reducing methane emissions in the oil and gas industry. [Natural Gas STAR](#) plays an important role in SGA's principles to "always consider the environment while finding, developing and producing the natural gas and oil consumers need."

SGA encourages all of its member companies to take an active role in protecting the environment and participate in Natural Gas STAR. Not only will Natural Gas STAR help SGA members further improve operating efficiency, participation helps send a powerful message that voluntary, cooperative programs are effective at simultaneously meeting environmental goals and increasing profits.

SGA members benefit from Natural Gas STAR

Effect of Natural Gas STAR Reductions on Methane Emissions 2005



Thirty-four SGA member companies participate in the Natural Gas STAR Program. Through employing Natural Gas STAR recommended technologies and practices, these companies have collectively achieved over 182 Bcf (billion cubic feet) of methane emissions reductions worth over \$1 billion.

Through 2006, nearly 578 Bcf of methane emissions have been reduced, saving program Partners over \$4 billion. These reductions are the result of implementing cost-effective measures. Natural Gas STAR assists Partners in identifying the best available technologies and practices and can help companies develop implementation plans based on individual corporate economic and operational criteria. ([Learn more](#) about these cost-effective gas saving practices and technologies.)

Who participates in the Natural Gas STAR Program?

Recently, President Bush challenged industries to join voluntary partnerships and work to reduce the greenhouse gas intensity of the U.S. economy. In particular, President Bush cited the Natural Gas STAR Program as a model partnership. Since the Program was launched in 1993, over 120 participating oil and gas companies have taken the initiative to reduce emissions of methane, a greenhouse gas, through smart business practices. Along with SGA, 18 other associations endorse and support the Natural Gas STAR Program.

Continue on to the Additional Partner Benefits

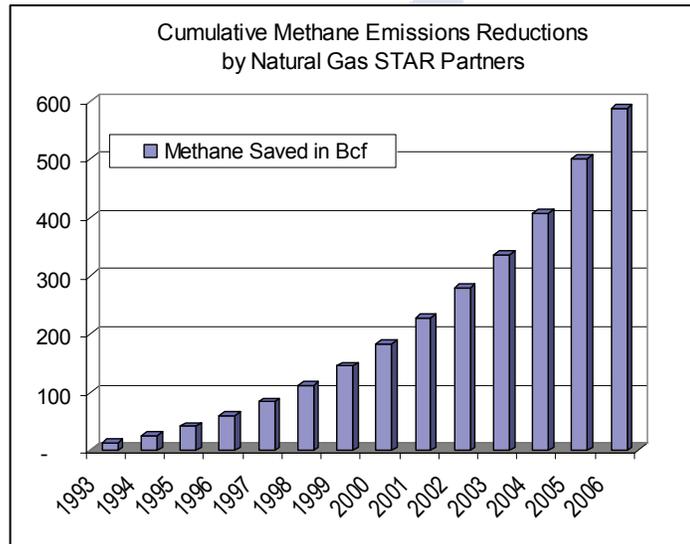
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Participating companies benefit in many other ways as well

Technology Transfer - The Program conducts workshops and develops technical documents of company-reported technologies and practices to help share information with industry peers and help stay current with new methane reduction opportunities.



Documenting Greenhouse Gas Reductions - Natural Gas STAR provides Partners a means to measure current emissions reduction activities as well as account for past efforts through annual reporting and technical documents.

Environmental Message - The collective achievements of Natural Gas STAR Partners send a powerful message that government-advocated programs can be helpful in attaining important environmental and economic goals.



Methane to Markets

The **Methane to Markets Partnership** is an international initiative focused on advancing cost-effective, near-term methane recovery and use as a clean energy source. Participating countries include: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, Ecuador, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Nigeria, Poland, Republic of Korea, Russia, Ukraine, U.K., U.S., and Viet Nam. The Partnership reduces global methane emissions to enhance economic growth, promote energy security, improve the environment, and reduce greenhouse gases. Other benefits include improving mine safety, reducing waste, and improving local air quality. The Partnership targets methane recovery from landfills, agriculture, underground coal mines, and natural gas and oil.

Methane to Markets holds regular natural gas and oil workshops where operators, investment banks, service providers, and other interested parties gather to share and discuss methane capture and use projects. Examples include:

- [Tomsk, Russia](#)
- [Bogotá, Colombia](#)
- [Villahermosa, Mexico](#)
- [New Delhi, India](#)
- [Beijing, China.](#)

To learn more, visit the [Natural Gas STAR Web site](#), or contact the EPA Natural Gas STAR team:

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