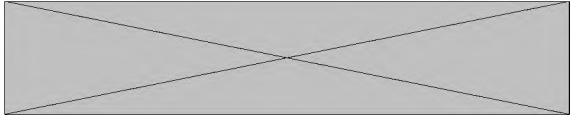


To: leila_getto@ios.doi.gov[leila_getto@ios.doi.gov]
From: Jack Gerard, API
Sent: 2018-07-11T09:26:14-04:00
Importance: Normal
Subject: [EXTERNAL] The Environmental Partnership: Energy Industry's Latest Initiative for Continued Emissions Reductions
Received: 2018-07-11T09:26:23-04:00

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July 11, 2018

Dear Leila,

America's oil and natural gas industry is committed to [tackling environmental challenges](#) and reducing our environmental footprint.

While our nation's position as the world's leading producer and refiner of natural gas and oil is well-documented, U.S. leadership on environmental progress should not be overlooked.

A combination of [technological innovation](#), best practices and collaboration is the cornerstone to progress. And a new initiative – The Environmental Partnership – is the latest example.

A collaborative effort among oil and natural gas companies toward continual environmental improvements, [The Environmental Partnership](#) launched in December 2017. The Partnership's initial focus is on continuing to reduce air emissions, including methane and volatile organic compounds (VOCs), from oil and natural gas production.

Methane, which can be emitted both naturally and through human activity, is the primary constituent of natural gas, so [minimizing its release](#) is important to industry from both an environmental and business standpoint. Partnership participants have agreed to [implement programs](#) to further reduce emissions of methane – from leak detection and repair to replacing or retrofitting gas-powered controllers.

A voluntary yearly report – shared with the public -- provides a platform for the entire industry to benefit from our improved understanding of emissions and how best to continue reducing them.

In just the first seven months since its founding, the number of Partnership participants has grown from 26 to more than 40 companies –representing operators from every producing basin and more than 30 percent of U.S. natural gas production.

[Methane emissions](#) from natural gas and petroleum systems decreased 14 percent from 1990 to 2016, even as natural gas output increased by more than 50 percent – a strong foundation of progress on which to build. And that's not the only success. The United States leads the world in cutting carbon – with [clean natural gas](#) produced through advanced technologies like hydraulic fracturing helping reduce carbon emissions to 25-year lows. Increased use of domestic natural gas has also helped reduce ozone concentrations in the air by 17 percent since 2000.

These advancements are supported by [investments from the U.S. natural gas and oil industry](#), which is second only to the federal government in spending on climate innovation and research. The industry has invested more than \$300 billion toward improving the environmental performance of products and operations between 1990 and 2015.

[The Environmental Partnership](#) is just the latest example of the oil and natural gas industry's

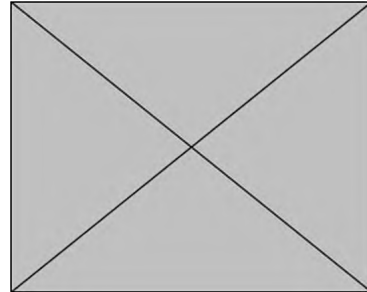
commitment to achieving environmental progress while providing affordable, reliable energy to American homes and businesses.

Sincerely,

Jack N. Gerard
President & CEO
API

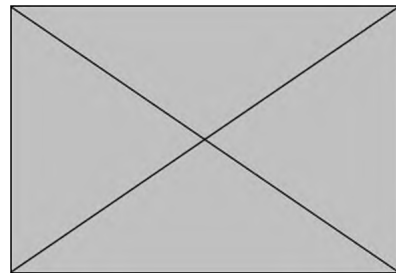
Natural Gas and the Energy Future

Natural gas is the linchpin for a clean energy future – from its own clean attributes to its role as an essential partner to intermittent energy technologies like wind and solar. [Learn more about the game-changing innovations that make natural gas a foundational fuel for the world's energy future.](#)



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About API:

API is the only national trade association representing all facets of the oil and natural gas industry, which supports 10.3 million U.S. jobs and nearly 8 percent of the U.S. economy. API's more than 600 members include large integrated companies, as well as exploration and production, refining, marketing, pipeline, and marine businesses, and service and supply firms. They provide most of the nation's energy and are backed by a growing grassroots movement of more than 40 million Americans.

To learn more about API and the value of oil and natural gas, please visit API.org.

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