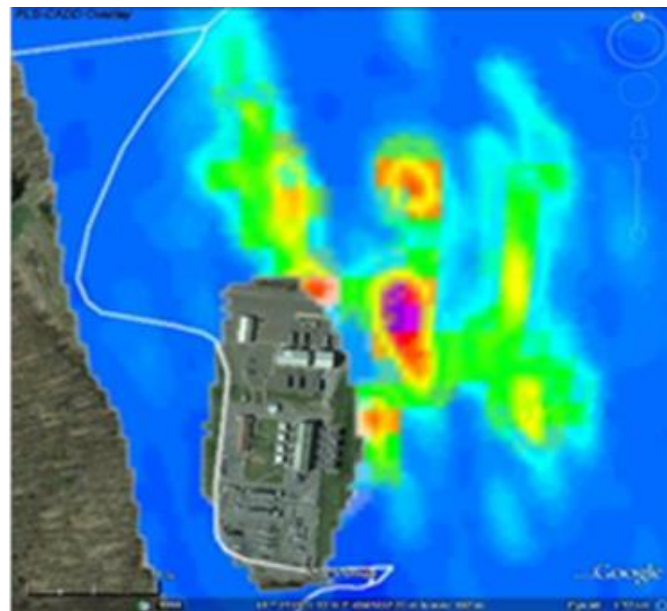




Driving Innovation ♦ Delivering Results

*Mastering the Subsurface Through Technology,
Innovation and Collaboration: Carbon Storage and
Oil and Natural Gas Technologies Review Meeting*



Understanding Impacts to Air Quality from
Unconventional Natural Gas Development

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

National Energy
Technology Laboratory

NETL's Assessment of Shale Gas Development's Air Quality Impacts



Problem:

- Uncertain/inaccurate values for emission factors associated with large contributors to life-cycle emissions

Objectives:

- To collect field data of representative ambient and point source air emissions

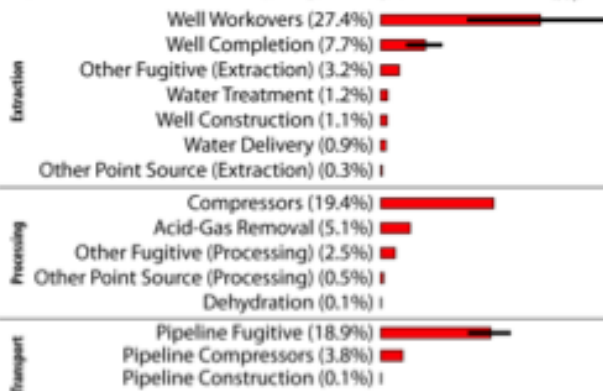


Emissions of methane, volatile organic compounds, particulate matter, reactive nitrogen, carbon dioxide



NETL's Mobile Air Monitoring Laboratory

Drivers for GHG Emissions in LCA of Shale-Gas Activities (GHG emissions include CH_4 , CO_2 , and N_2O , converted to CO_2 eq.)



NETL's Use of Multiple Measurement Approaches:

Ambient	Point-Source
Values integrated over an area	Values for a specific location and/or operation
Plume interception dependent on local meteorology	Determination of background concentrations not necessary
Continuous measurements capture variations in operator/equipment activity	Provides a "snapshot" or short-term measurement

Provide objective data to help quantify the environmental and safety risks of oil and gas development

- **The Methane Emissions Quantification Program** aims to improve the accuracy of methane emission information currently used to identify and prioritize methane reductions within the natural gas infrastructure and the accuracy of the methane emissions reported for the natural gas infrastructure in the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Inventory.
 - Optimizing detection and measurement techniques
 - Quantifying emissions
 - Determining the significance of emission sources when considered in an inventory context
- **Onshore Unconventional Resources Program – Air Quality task** aims to improve the assessment of impacts to air quality from oil and gas exploration and production activities
 - Use NETL's stationary ambient air monitoring laboratory, vehicle-based methane plume surveying equipment, and infrared cameras to conduct targeted on-site measurements
 - Use collected data in numerical models to understand emission rates and local and regional air quality impacts

NETL Facilities/Capabilities



NETL's Mobile Air Monitoring Laboratory



VOCs, NO_x, ozone,
CH₄ + $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{CH}_4}$, CO₂
+ $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{CO}_2}$, PM₁₀,
PM_{2.5},
Meteorological
Data

Unattended,
remote operation
via satellite link

- Source Emissions Measurements:
HiFlow Sampler, Dynamic Flux Chamber
- Tracer Release for Indirect Methane
Emissions Measurements



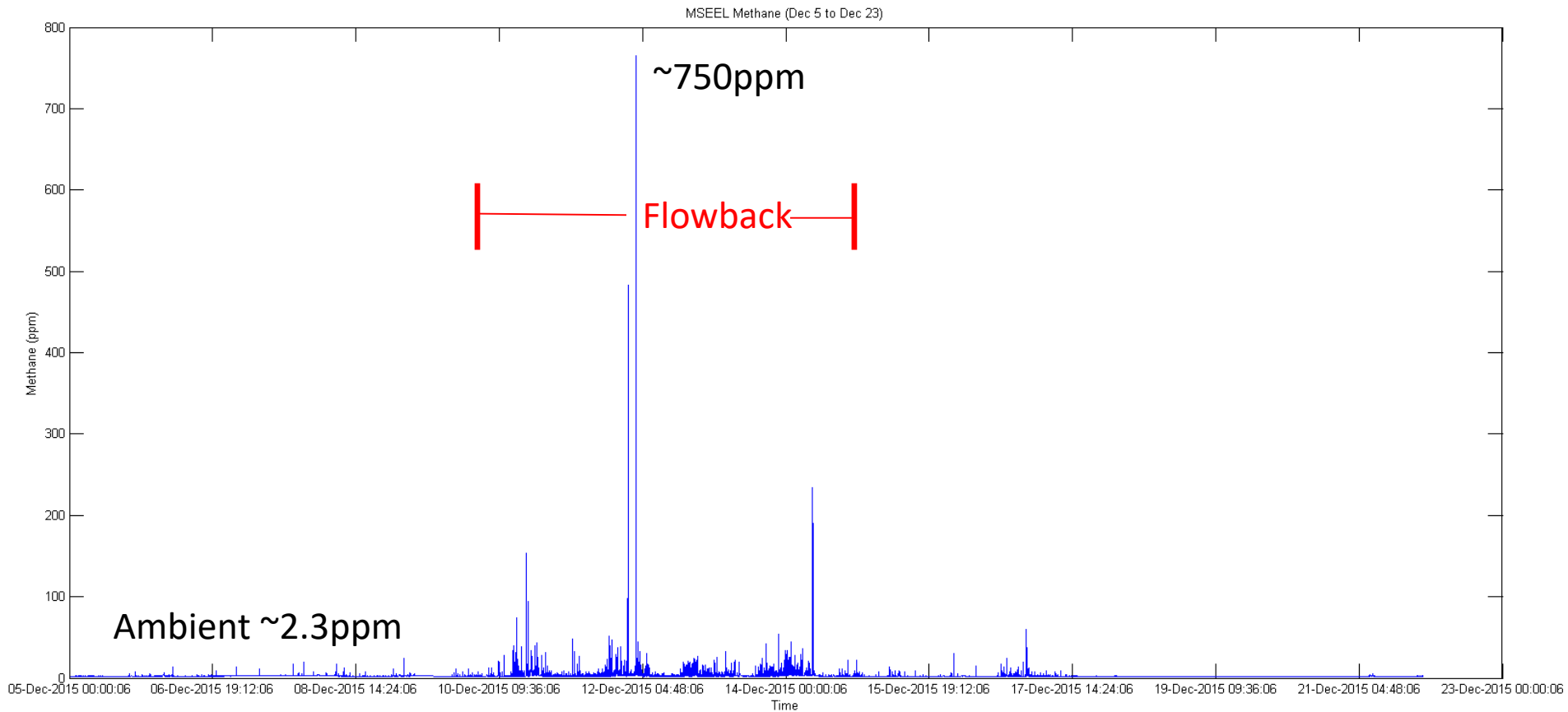
- **Pollutants Measured:**
 - VOCs (Perkin Elmer Ozone Precursor Analyzer, GC-FID)
 - Ozone, NO_x (Teledyne-API Gas Analyzers)
 - Methane and Carbon Isotopes in Methane (Picarro CRDS)
 - CO₂ and Carbon Isotopes in CO₂ (Picarro CRDS)
 - PM₁₀ and PM_{2.5} (Thermo Fisher TEOM 1405DF)
 - Organic and Elemental Carbon in Aerosols (Sunset Labs NDIR)
- **Meteorological Station (Davis Vantage Pro2 Plus, R.M. Young Ultrasonic Anemometer)**
 - Wind Speed and Direction
 - Temperature
 - Relative Humidity
 - Barometric Pressure
 - Rainfall
 - Solar Intensity

NETL's Ambient Air Monitoring Program

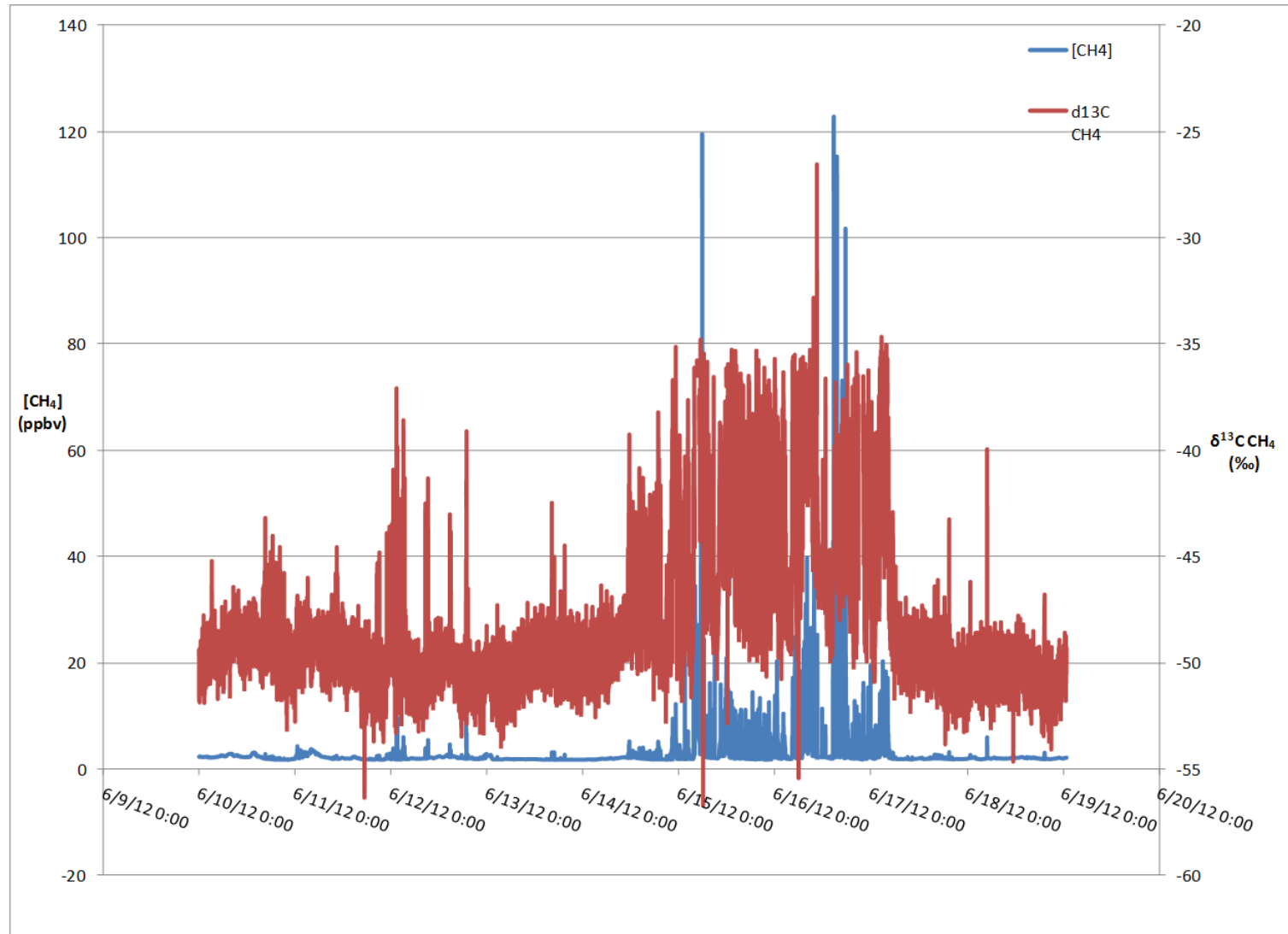


- **Marcellus Shale Energy Environmental Laboratory (MSEEL), Morgantown, WV (9/14 – 2/15)**
 - Two wells
 - Laboratory located on NNE corner of well pad
 - Vertical and horizontal drilling, hydraulic fracturing, flowback, production
- **Greene County Well Pads (2) (3/6/12 – 6/19/12 and 6/11/13 – 7/10/13)**
 - Six wells (two frac events) at one pad; Four wells at second pad
 - Laboratory located directly on well pad (northwest corner, southwest corner)
 - Baseline (pre-fracking), hydraulic fracturing, flowback, production
- **MCC Partners Site in Washington County (7/15/11 – 3/5/12, 7/11/13 - 4/28/14)**
 - Laboratory located 600 m northeast from well pad center
 - Baseline, horizontal drilling, hydraulic fracturing, flowback, production

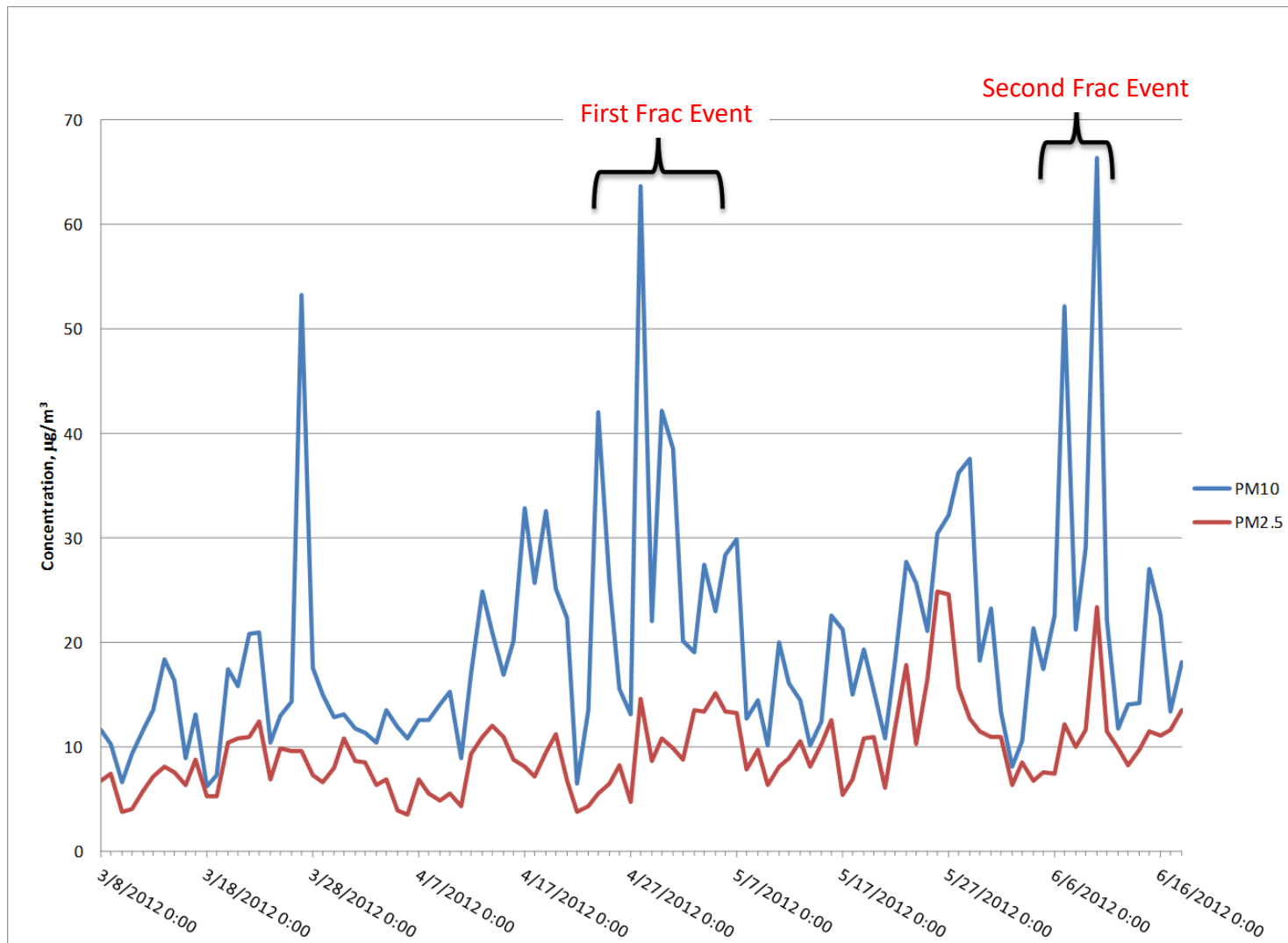
Methane Concentration at MSEEL



Isotopic Methane – Natural Gas Tracer (Greene County Well Pad)



24-Hour Average Particulate Matter (PM) Concentration at Greene County Well Pad



Volatile Organic Compound Concentrations at a Greene County, PA Well Pad



Compound*	Background (ppb)	First Frac Event (ppb)	Second Frac Event (ppb)
Hexane	0.3	0.6	0.4
Benzene	0.3	0.4	0.2
Toluene	0.7	1.3	2.3
Ethane	24.1	34.6	34.0
Propane	11.2	42.1	110.8
Isobutane	2.9	3.1	3.0
n-Butane	4.6	4.8	4.1
Isopentane	2.2	3.4	3.2
n-Pentane	1.8	2.2	1.8

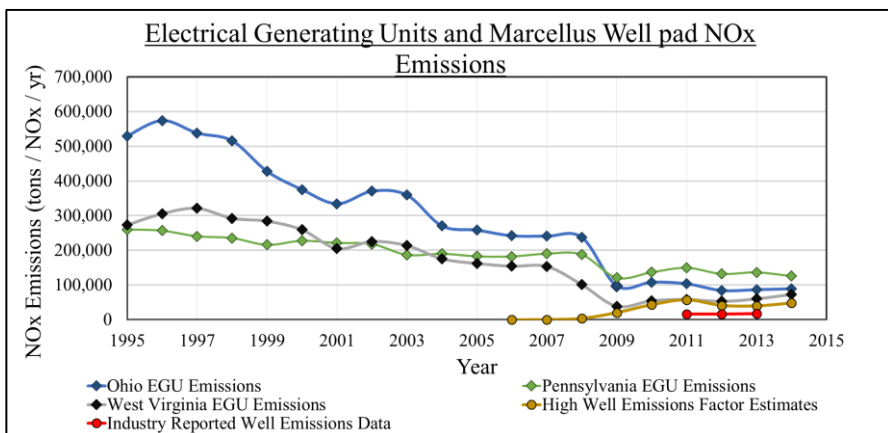
**Compounds detected in at least 25% of the samples. Preliminary data, do not cite*



Fate and Transport of N-Containing Compounds

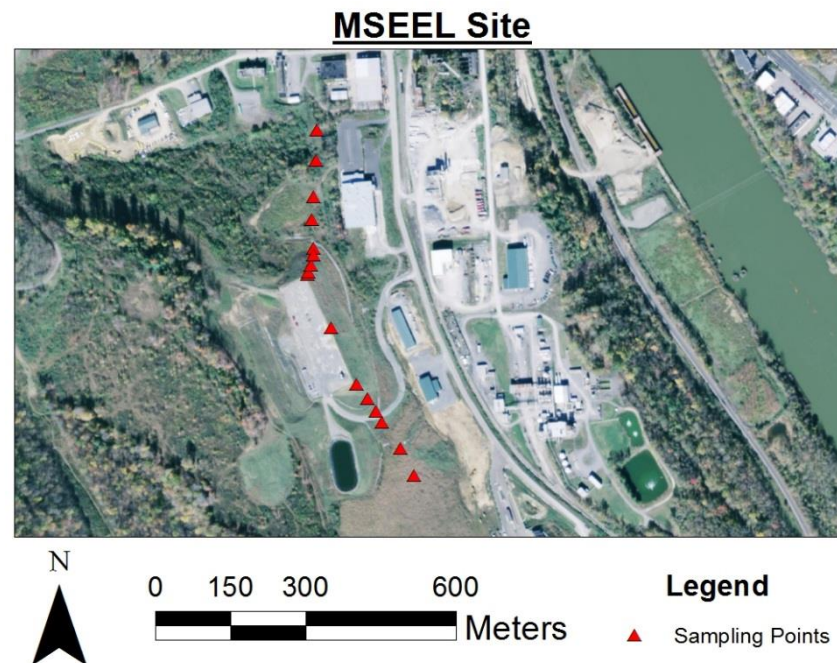


Measurement of ambient air concentrations and deposition fluctuations of NO_2 and HNO_3 along upwind and downwind transects adjacent to a Marcellus Shale unconventional well pad



During periods of heightened activity, NO_2 concentration initially peaks near the well pad and decreases with distance upwind and downwind, returning to background levels ~300 m from the central site

HNO_3 concentration peaks ~150 m away from the well pad during periods of heightened activity



Evidence of oxidation of NO_2 by O_3 . Time-weighted ambient concentration of NO_2 did not surpass the NAAQS

Reactive Nitrogen Emissions, Deposition: Marcellus Shale Energy Environmental Laboratory



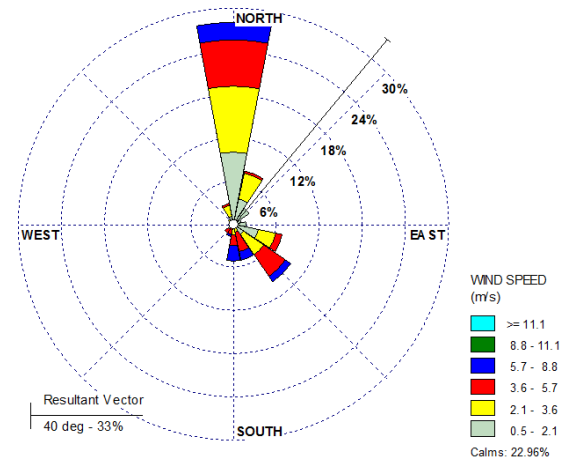
MSEEL Site



0 150 300 600
Meters

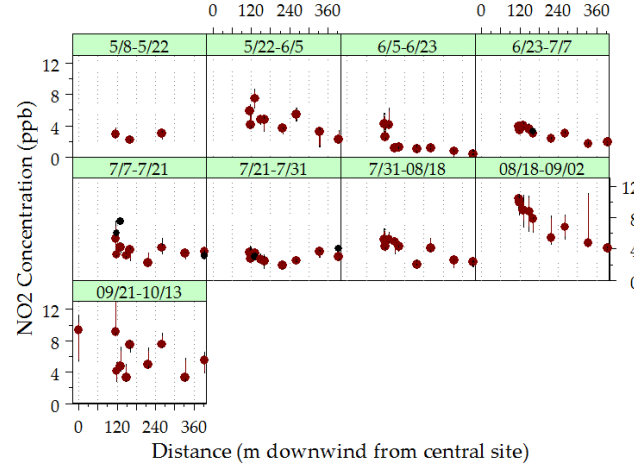
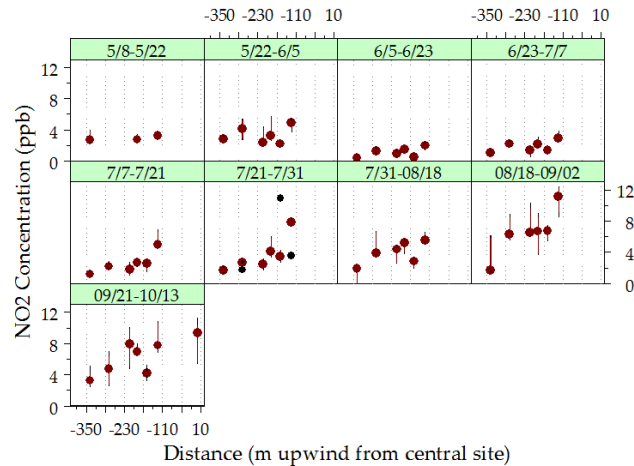
Legend

▲ Sampling Points

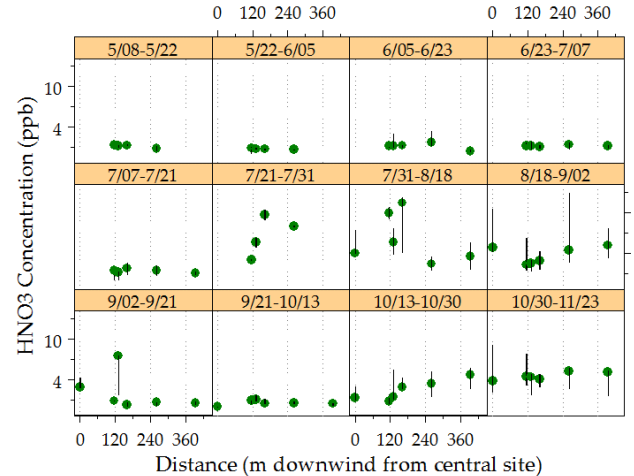
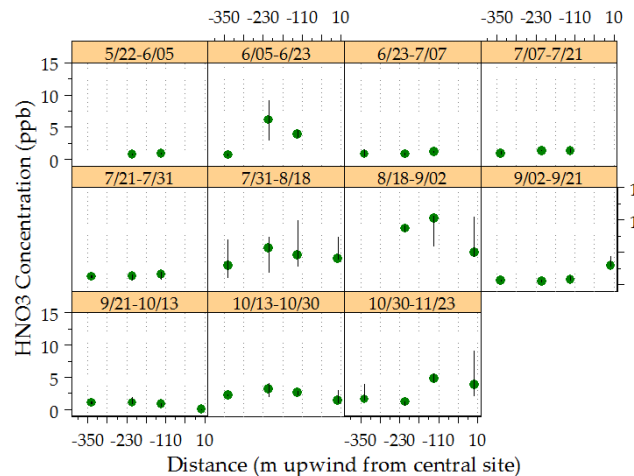


Biweekly passive filter samples analyzed from May-Nov. 2015, background through fracking

Reactive Nitrogen Emissions, Deposition: Key Accomplishments



During periods of heightened activity, NO₂ concentration initially peaks near the well pad and decreases with distance upwind and downwind, returning to background levels ~300 m from the central site



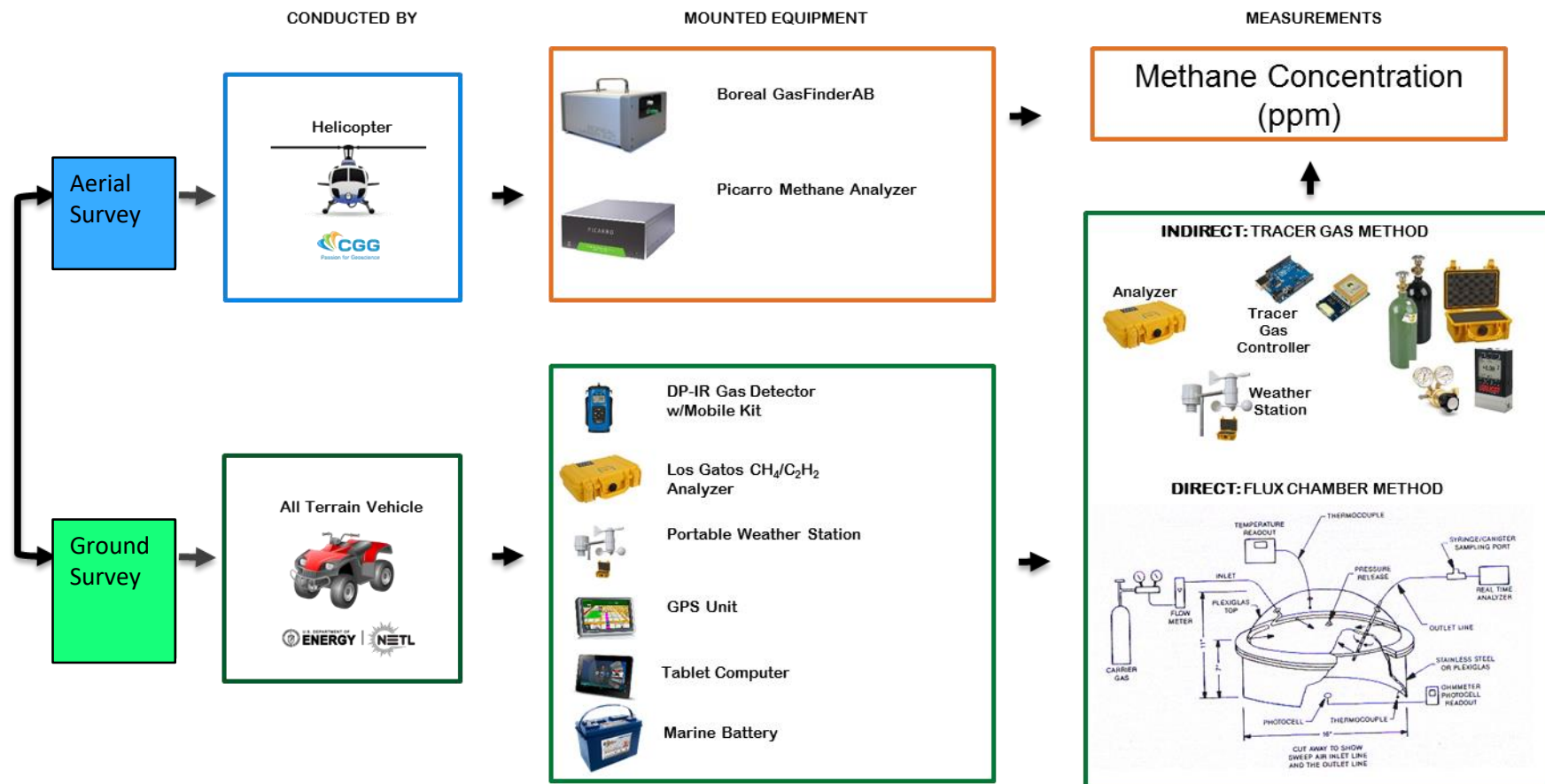
HNO₃ concentration peaks ~150 m away from the well pad during periods of heightened activity

Evidence of oxidation of NO₂ by O₃. The time-weighted ambient concentration of NO₂ does not surpass the NAAQS

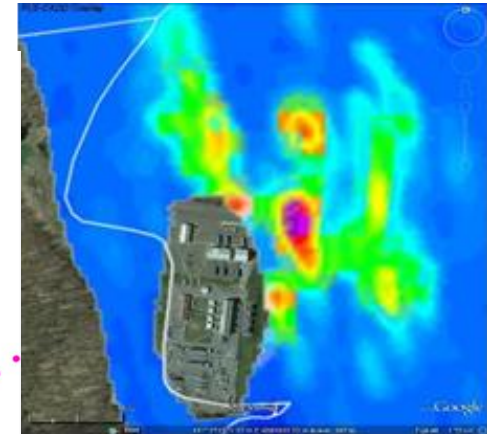
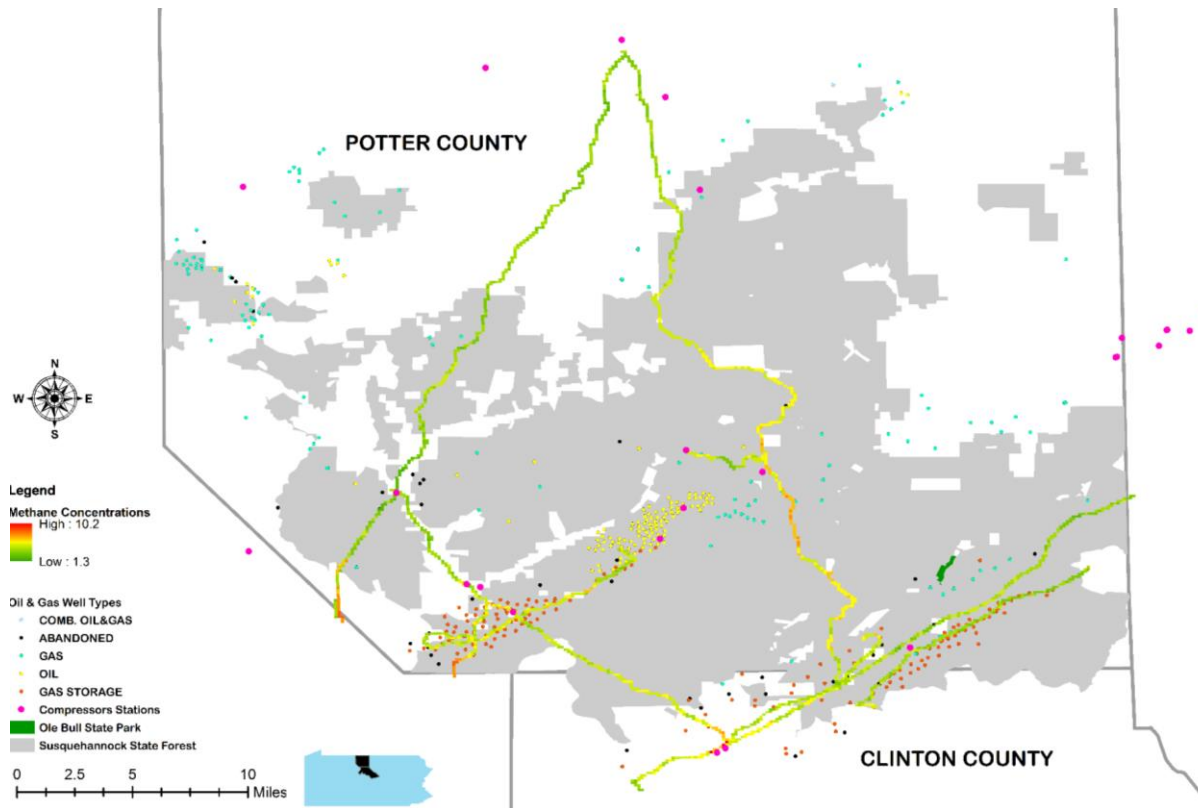
Natural Gas Pipeline Leak Rate Estimation



- Pipeline Study Design



Natural Gas Pipeline Leak Rate Estimation



Aerial Detection of Methane from a compressor station

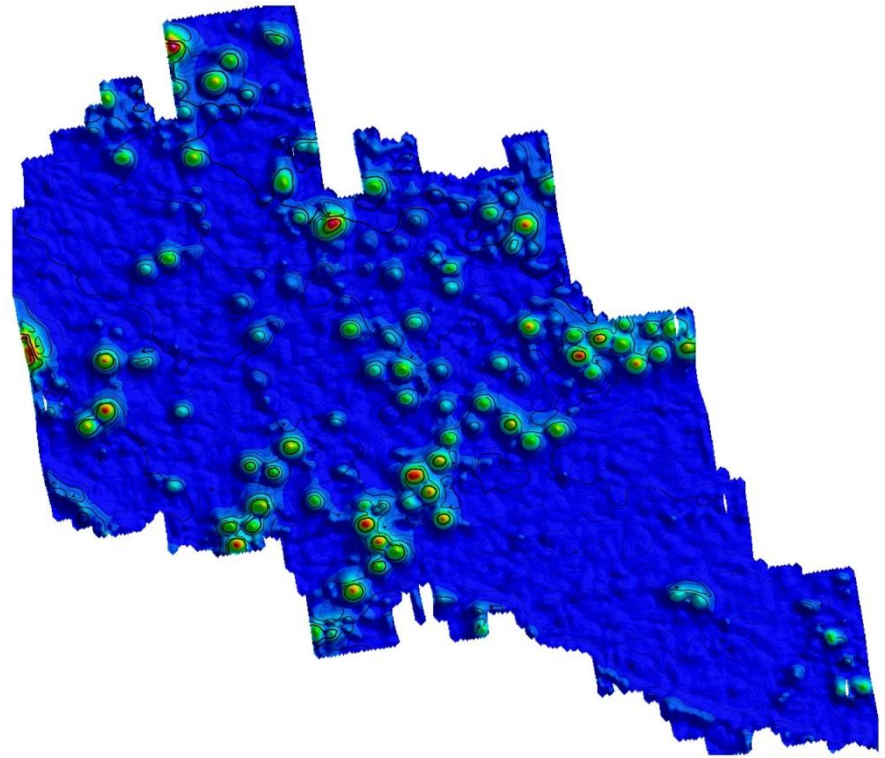
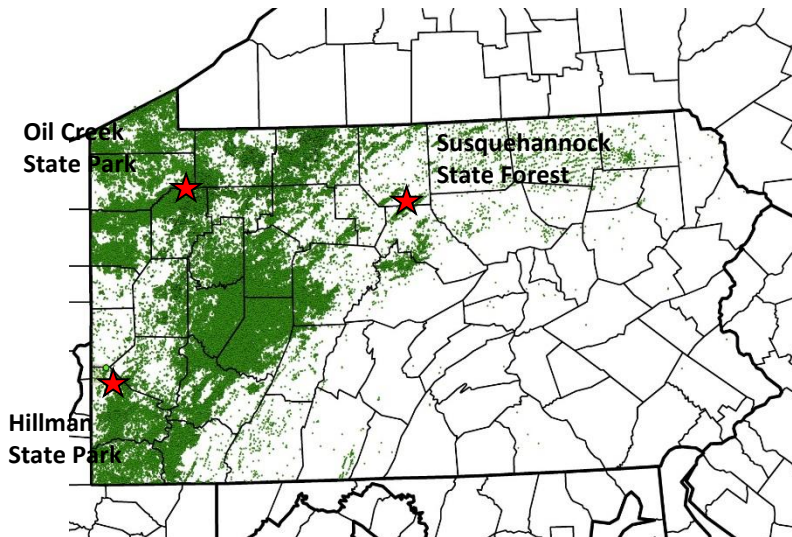


2016: Gathering pipelines, UAVs

Legacy Well Methane Emissions



Emission rate from abandoned wells unknown; could contribute to “top-down” vs. “bottom-up” discrepancy

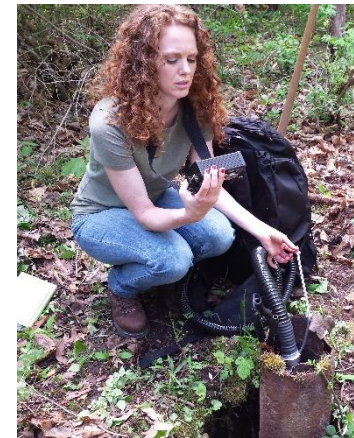


Aeromagnetic Survey of Hillman State Park, PA

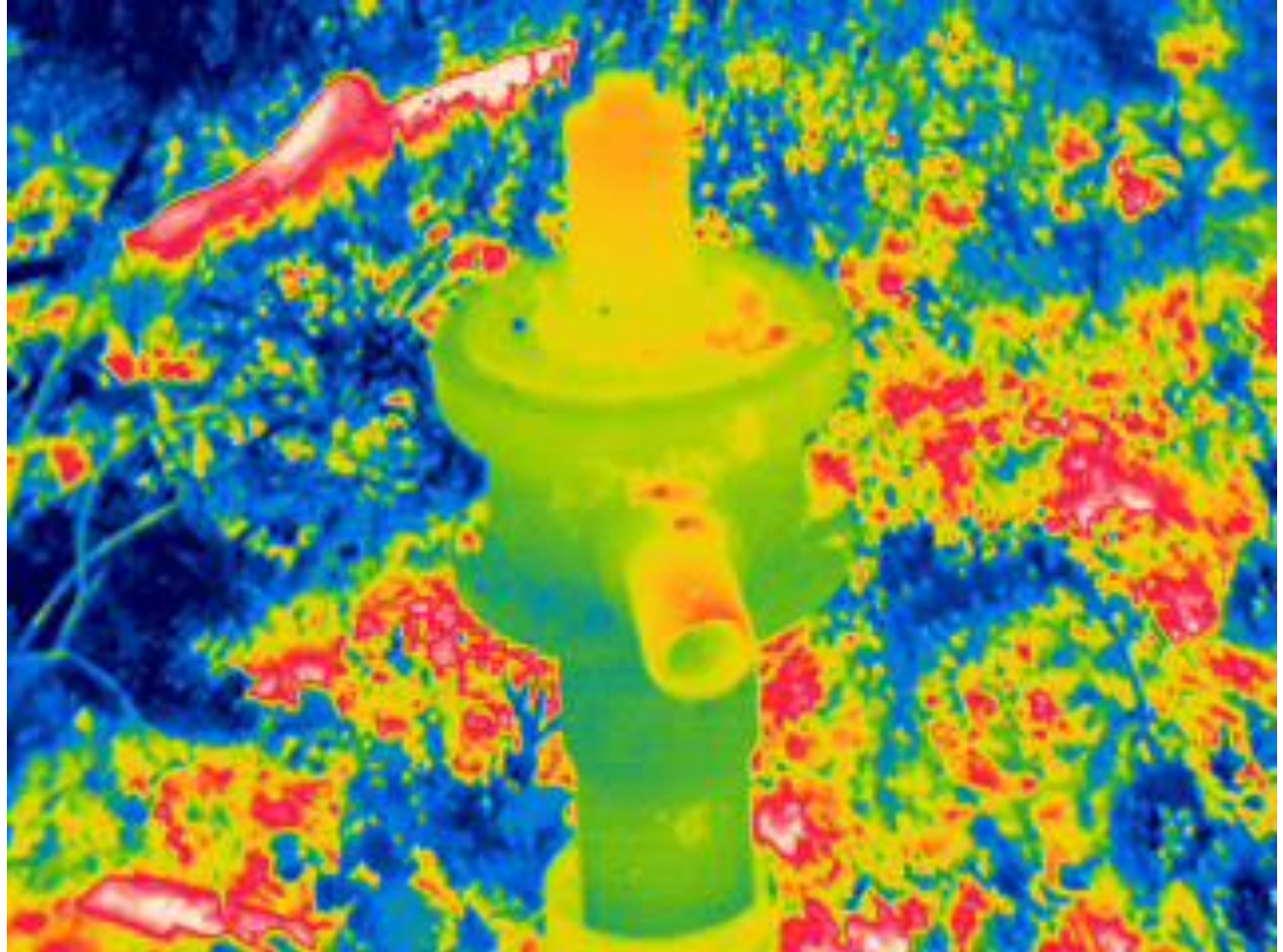
Legacy Well Methane Emissions



- **Abandoned wells present a risk to current development**
 - Conduit for gases and fluids to migrate to surface, unknown locations
- **Methods development**
 - HiFlow sampler, flux chamber, field FID, bag sampling, infrared camera
- **Measured emission rate/flux from 31 wells in Hillman State Park**
 - Mean methane emission rate for wellheads 0.70 kgd/well/day



Legacy Well Methane Emissions



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