Methane Guiding Principles Supporting Organisation Reporting

Rocky Mountain Institute

January 15th 2021

COMPANY: **Rocky Mountain Institute**

DATE: **January 15th 2021**

YEAR OF JOINING METHANE GUIDING PRINCIPLES: **2017**

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WORKING LEVEL REPRESENTATIVE: **Deborah Gordan**

Principle One:

Continually reduce methane emissions

2020 completed activity	2021 intended activity
Not Applicable.	Not Applicable.

Principle Two:

Advance strong performance across the gas supply chain

2020 completed activity	2021 intended activity
Not Applicable.	The MiQ standard (see Principle Five) will be expanded to include multiple segments of the O&G value chain (gathering and processing, inc LNG). This will result in supply chain transparency and provide commercial incentives for better methane management.

Principle Three:

Improve accuracy of methane emissions data

2020 completed activity	2021 intended activity
• Founding member of The Climate TRACE coalition. RMI will contribute O&Gspecific knowledge to this effort. In 2020, RMI started work on comparing measured (GOSAT satellite) and modeled (OCI+) methane emissions from high-producing nations, including Nigeria, Iran, Canada, and Kazakhstan, to provide reconciliation with different data platforms and to validate inventory and NDC inputs. This work will not only improve confidence in measured and modeled emissions' quantification, but enable targeted use of future satellites and improve national O&G methane inventories. • RMI launched the Climate Action Engine, which provides a platform that overlays operating asset data with methane emissions' quantifications using inventories, measured and modeled data. RMI is supporting research to enhance the usability of various satellite and airborne data as well as modeled data.	• Continue country-level analysis of measured, modeled, reported O&G methane emissions for global coverage. Provide this information to Climate TRACE to (1) help improve the accuracy of O&G emissions and (2) develop real-time evaluation capacity. • Update the MiQ standard with methodology to improve methane emissions' quantification accuracy. Work with CCAC's technical guidance working group and with academic institutions, such as Stanford and METEC, to improve diagnostics methods to reduce the uncertainty of reported data.

Principle Four:
Advocate sound policy and regulations on methane emissions

2020 completed activity	2021 intended activity
• RMI and SystemIQ provided feedback and made recommendations to the EU Methane strategy roadmap. • RMI published numerous blogs and articles promoting sound methane policy requirements, including new Colorado State Flaring Rules and the EU methane strategy. RMI also published pieces on the negative effects of the US rollback. • RMI submitted key methane and O&G policy recommendations to the US President-elect Biden's transition team, including federal buy-clean, emissions transparency and decarbonization pathways study analysis bills.	• RMI, with our partners at SystemIQ, are involved in the MGP EU policy working group, aimed at developing new regulatory tools and methane supply index. • RMI intends to assist the new US administration and US states to advocate for sounds methane regulation, particularly in the areas of emissions transparency. • Publish major report: "Know Your Oil & Gas" to highlight CAE findings with policy recommendations.

Principle Five:
Increase transparency

2020 completed activity	2021 intended activity
• Developed the MIQ global standard and certification system to differentiate natural gas based on its upstream methane emissions. MiQ provides a standardized framework to evaluate methane emissions management at the facility level so producers can differentiate their gas from their peers and buyers have information they need to purchase low-methane natural gas. RMI scoped MiQ for production, both onshore and offshore, and is ready for piloting.	• MiQ aims to expand into LNG certification and midstream segments. This will include a framework for calculating methane intensity, deployment of technology and recommend company practices to create a standardized way to compare companies and increase the transparency of methane management efforts.
• Launched The Climate Action Engine (CAE) at Climate Week 2020. The initial platform was created with Spherical Analytics as a beta version focusing first on Texas. Publicly reported data streams such as production volumes and self-reported venting and flaring have been ingested and use cases are in development to identify methane abatement opportunities and target operators using best practices.	• CAE aims to build additional insight modules on the platform that will be available to key industry players. In addition, CAE will release all the underlying data that it can.
• Launched Climate TRACE (Tracking Real-time Atmospheric Carbon Emissions). RMI is a founding member of the coalition which aims to track human-caused emissions to specific sources in real time.	• Climate TRACE plans to offer its first accounting of global emissions as a public tool ahead of the next COP26 climate talks in the fall of 2021.

Commentary:

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