Responsibly Sourced Gas

Responsibly sourced gas is a key strategy to minimize methane emissions that might occur across the natural gas supply chain.

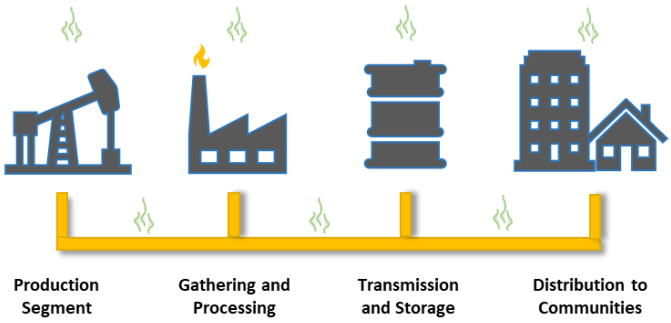
A core concern for the natural gas industry is methane emissions from unintentional leaks when natural gas is extracted, processed, and transported. Responsibly sourced gas (RSG) is conventional natural gas that has been certified by a third party to verify that its procurement, i.e., the collection and delivery of the gas, meets a set of environmental criteria. RSG is also referred to as certified natural gas, differentiated gas, green gas, independently certified gas, and reduced-carbon natural gas. To be certified as RSG, natural gas must comply with stringent greenhouse gas emissions standards compared to current regulations. Usually, natural gas is considered responsibly sourced if it is delivered with <1% residual methane emissions. The shift towards RSG is being driven by policy and the demands of downstream customers like local distribution companies who are interested in supporting emissions reductions industry-wide, as well as Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) focused financing. This market demand and the ability to differentiate gas producers based on their methane emissions performance will incentivize natural gas producers to limit methane leaks across their supply chain.

Preventing methane leaks reduces heat-trapping greenhouse gases up to 25 times more than removing the same amount of carbon dioxide[1]

Certification Programs for Responsibly Sourced Gas

In order to certify natural gas as responsibly sourced, it must undergo a formal process that uses technology to quantify and monitor emissions. There are multiple certification processes available to producers including:

- MiQ is a methane emissions certification standard that currently certifies over 4% of the global gas supply.[2] MiQ grades different producers of natural gas based on their methane emissions. This is done by assessing a producer's natural gas supply chain and giving each phase of the supply chain a methane intensity grade on a quarterly basis.
- EO100: The Equitable Origin also certifies natural gas producers by assessing their methane emissions across their respective supply chains. It also has an additional set of criteria that assesses fair labor and working conditions and that ensures the rights of indigenous people are respected.[3]
- TrustWell (through Project Canary) offers similar certificates, but they differ from E0100 and MiQ in that they require continuous monitoring of emissions data.[4]



Certifications help organizations ensure their gas is sourced with minimal environmental and societal impacts.

[1] U.S. EPA, *Global Methane Initiative*, 2022
[2] MiQ
[3] Equitable Origin
[4] Project Canary