

Minimizing Methane Emissions from Natural Gas Compressor Stations and other Related Equipment



Joshua Shodeinde, MDE - AQCAC - December 16, 2019

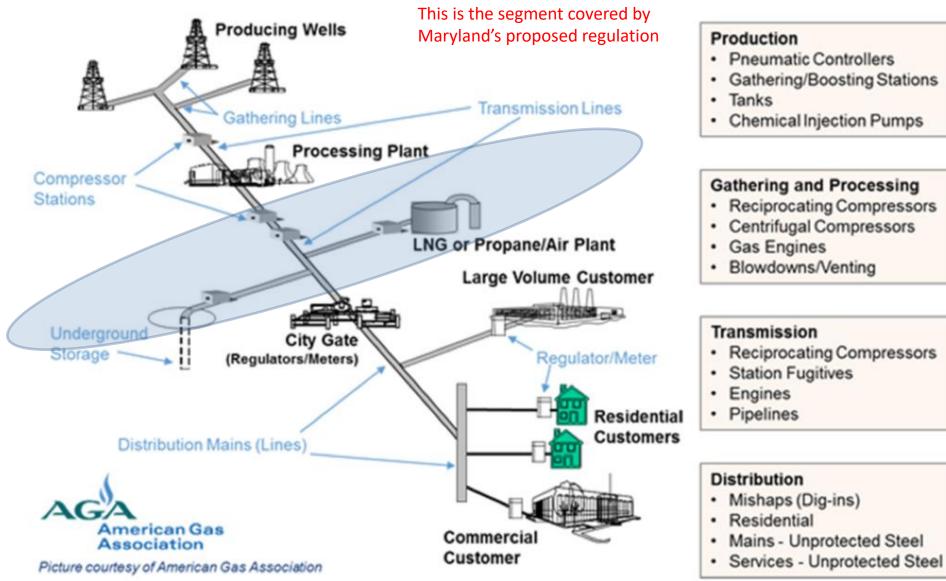


Presentation Outline

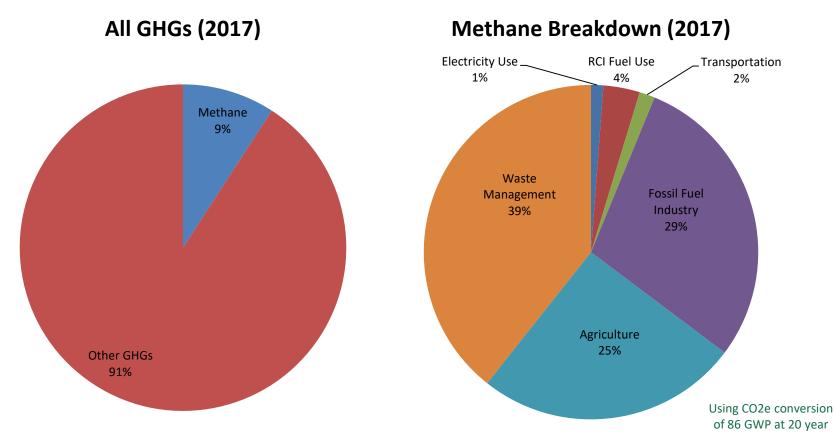
- Overview of Oil and Natural Gas Industry
- Federal New Source Performance Standards (NSPS)
- Proposed Regulatory Requirements
- Discussion/Questions



Oil and Natural Gas Industry in General



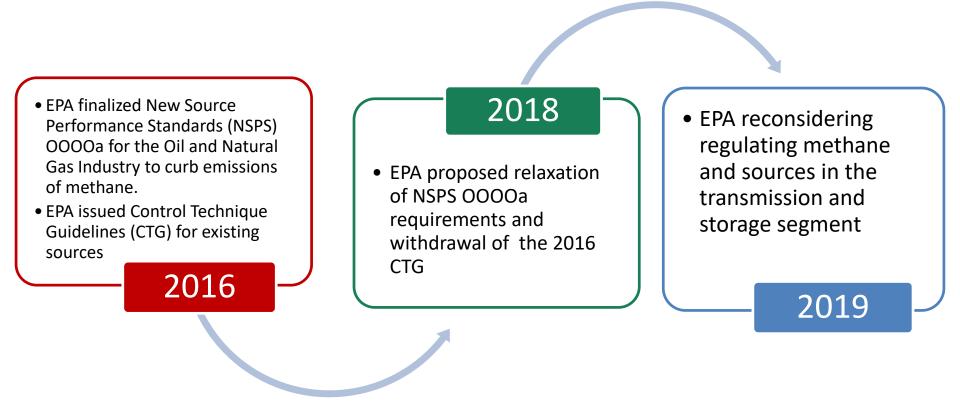




 Fossil fuel industry methane emissions comprise of emissions in the transmission and storage segment and the distribution segment.



Shifting EPA Requirements



- Maryland working with other states to challenge more recent relaxations
 - Reducing methane is not just a Maryland issue

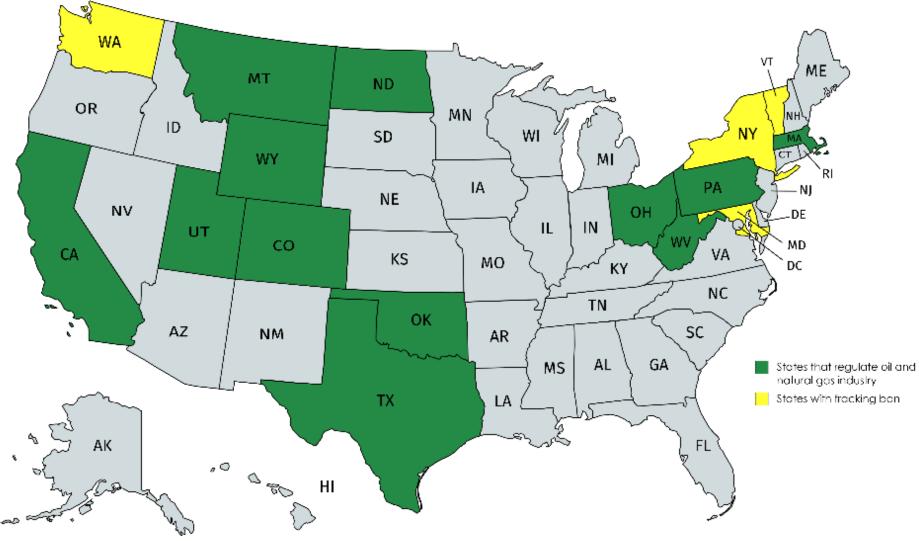




 MDE has also been meeting with affected businesses, communities, environmental advocacy groups and other stakeholders in 1-on1 meetings or calls since 2017



Other State Programs

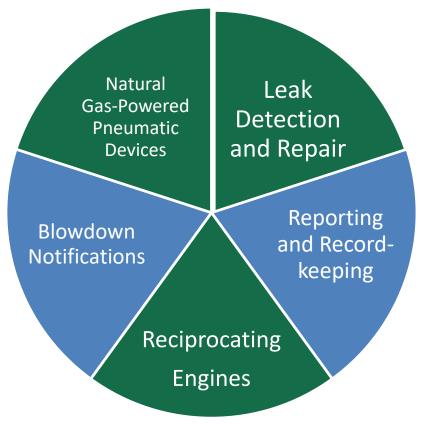


USCA also has working group on this issue



PROPOSED REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS





• Built from 2016 NSPS OOOOa, and leading states with methane reduction programs such as Colorado and California



Applicability

- Existing and "Any new, modified, or reconstructed natural gas compressor station, natural gas underground storage facility, or liquefied natural gas facility."
- Four compressor stations
 - 1. Dominion, Myersville
 - 2. TC Energy, Rutledge
 - 3. Transco, Ellicott City
 - 4. Texas Eastern, Accident
- One underground storage facility
 - Texas Eastern, Accident
- One import and liquefaction/export facility
 5. Dominion, Cove Point









Leak Detection & Repair (LDAR): Summary of Requirements

Reg .03 (pgs. 2-4)

- Facilities to submit initial methane emissions monitoring plan within 90 days of regulation adoption §A(5)
 - Procedures, equipment and observation path
 - Unsafe-to-monitor (UTM) and difficult-to-monitor (DTM) components with explanation
- First LDAR monitoring survey due within 180 days of effective date of regulation. - §A(8)(a)
 - Within 180 days at the startup of new facility
- Quarterly monitoring survey using Optical Gas Imaging (OGI) or Method 21 -§A(8)(a)
 - Exception for electric engines (monthly AVO, annual LDAR inspections) §.03(B)
 - LNG specific requirements: Climate Action Plan and Maryland's Public Service Commission Certificate of Convenience and Public Necessity (CPCN) LDAR requirements - §.03(C)
- Weekly Audio/Visual/Olfactory (AVO) Inspections §A(7)
 - Natural Gas Storage field specific requirements §A(10)

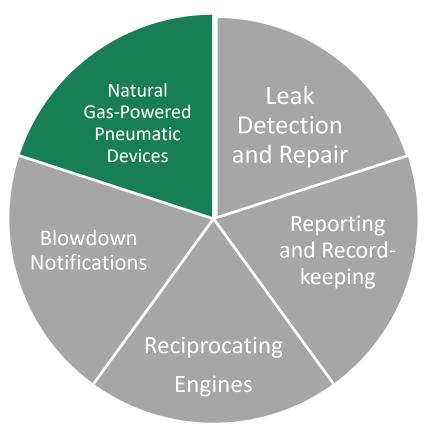


Leak Detection & Repair (LDAR): Summary of Requirements

Reg .03 (pg. 3) – Repair Requirements

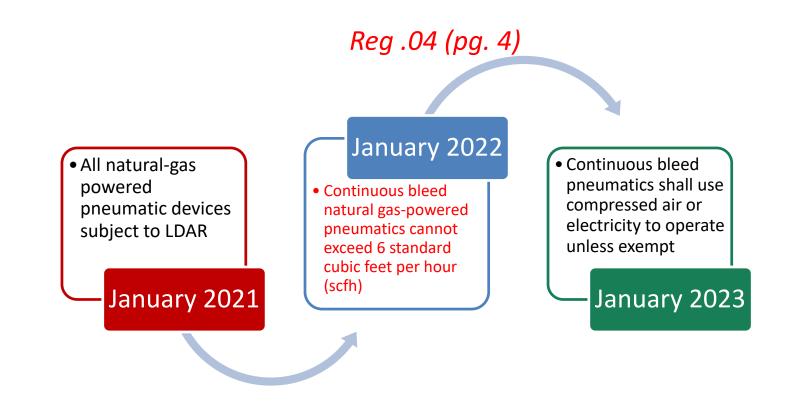
- Repairs should be made and confirmed within 30 days of discovering a leak
- Delay of Repair (DOR) provisions for documentation showing:
 - Repair will take longer than 30 days due to need of specialty part
 - Repair requires a vent or station blowdown
 - Repair is unsafe to repair due to the operation of unit
 - Repair can not be successfully completed due to technical issue, will require a plan to be approved by the Department





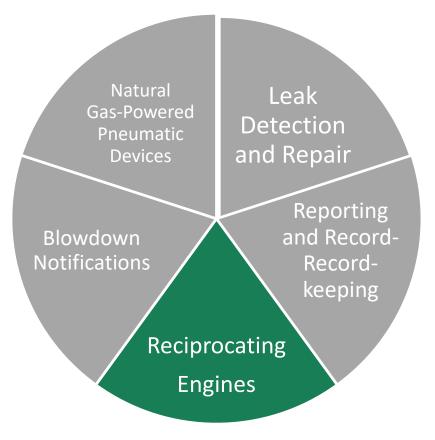


Pneumatic Devices: Summary of Requirements



- Additional requirements for exempt continuous bleed natural gas-powered devices - §D(1):
 - 1. Use a vapor collection system; or
 - 2. Tag device, inspect monthly, and perform maintenance







Reciprocating Engines: Summary of Requirements

Reg .05 (pg. 4-5)

- Subject to LDAR §A
- Two mitigation options:
 - 1. Vented gas is routed to a vapor control device §B(1); OR
 - 2. Rod packing flow rate required to be measured annually and if exceeds emission threshold of 1 scfm:
 - 1. Replace rod packing; or
 - 2. Measure rod packing flow rate every six months until rod packing reaches 2 scfm, then replace within 30 days



Reciprocating Engines: Rod Packing Replacement Schedule

Manufacturer Rod Packing Replacement Guidelines*	
Condition	Rod packing flow rate (scfm)
Past Normal lubed packing, New	0.2 – 0.5
Past Non-lube Packing, New	0.5 – 1.0
Past Normal lubed packing, Partially Worn	1.0 - 2.0
Recommended Alarm Set point	2.0-3.0
Recommended Shutdown Set point	4.0 - 5.0

• The Department also reviewed information used to establish California standard (2 scfm) and Canada standard (0.81 scfm).

* November 7, 2019 e-mail from Cook Compression



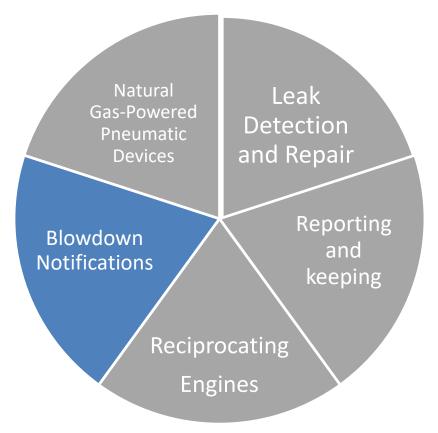
Vapor Collection System: Summary of Requirements

Reg .06 (pg. 5)

- All gases collected with a VCS shall route all gases, vapors and fumes to:
 - Process gas system;
 - Fuel gas system; or
 - Vapor control device (VCD)
- VCS subject to LDAR and AVO inspections §§ C and D
- VCD standards for destructive and non-destructive types

 §E







Blowdowns: Summary of Requirements

Reg .07 (pg. 6-7)

- Affected facilities shall submit blowdown notification plan to the Department for blowdown events in the excess of 1 million standard cubic feet (scf). Plans shall include:
 - Notification format (e.g. website, e-mail, text message, social media announcement)
 - Public outreach plan
- Affected facilities shall notify the Department and make blowdown information publicly available at least 7 days prior to any planned blowdown event. Any planned blowdown less than 7 days before event should be explained
 - Emergency blowdowns notification within one hour of occurrence, if possible
- All blowdown events within the facility fence-line that is greater than 50 scf shall be reported to MDE annually
 - Reporting format similar to EPA's Greenhouse Gas Reporting Program.







Reporting and Recordkeeping: Summary of Requirements

Reg .07 (pg. 5)

- LDAR report summary to be publicly posted on company website and submitted to the Department
- LDAR is part of the annual GHG reporting
- DOR records on-site unless requested
- Recordkeeping requirements



GHG Reporting: Summary of Requirements

Reg .07 (pg. 7)

- All facilities, regardless of the size of GHG emissions, will be required to report their GHG emissions to the Department annually - §§ C(1) and (3)
- MDE's reporting requirements, calculation methodology, and procedures mirror EPA's Greenhouse Gas Reporting Program - § C(2)
- Maryland reporting requirement will harmonize reporting with federal rule with modification
 - Facilities will be required to provide back-up calculation details



Tentative Schedule

- Air Quality Control Advisory Council: Today
- Proposed Regulation in the Maryland Register: May 2020
- Public Hearing and final comment period: June 2020
- Rule Adoption and Effective: Fall 2020







QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION