

# Comment by February 13, 2023

## Standards of Performance for New, Reconstructed, and Modified Sources and Emissions Guidelines for Existing Sources: Oil and Natural Gas Sector Climate Review

Regulations.gov Document ID EPA-HQ-OAR-2021-0317-1460

A recently-launched EPA public engagement process is a critical opportunity for faith communities to ensure that the EPA adopts strong, comprehensive methane safeguards to protect our health, frontline communities, and Sacred Earth.

In November 2022, President Biden and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) proposed an [updated draft rule](#) to cut methane and other harmful pollutants from oil and gas operations across the country.

With a public comment period now open (through Feb. 13), faith communities have an opportunity to voice their support for cutting methane, emphasizing where the rule must go further, and urging EPA to finalize and implement the rule quickly so communities can realize the benefits as soon as possible.

Comment at  
<https://www.regulations.gov/commenton/EPA-HQ-OAR-2021-0317-1460>

### Sample Comment

Dear EPA Administrator Regan,

As a person of faith and conscience, I share a moral responsibility with all people to care for our Sacred Earth and protect the most climate vulnerable among us.

Methane pollution from the oil and gas sector is accelerating the pace of climate change and harming the health of our families and communities across the country. That is why we are counting on the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to quickly finalize the strongest possible safeguards to cut methane and other harmful pollution from the oil and gas industry.

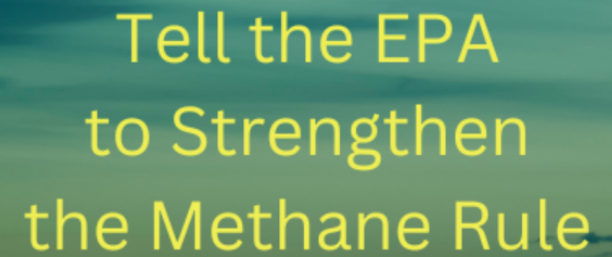
The updated draft rule improves upon or maintained many of the standards in the original draft rule released by EPA in 2021 identified by climate, public health, and environmental justice advocates like me, including by ensuring all wells are regularly and frequently monitored for leaks and that outdated pneumatic equipment is replaced with zero-emitting options. In addition to ensuring that each of these key provisions remains in the final rule, more work must be done to ensure that communities like mine are protected.

EPA must do more to:

- require operators at wells to capture associated gas and limit flaring of that gas to instances in which it is necessary for safety or maintenance reasons;
- strengthen the standards to address emissions from storage tanks by making the standards applicable to more tanks; and
- provide a clear pathway for communities and individuals to participate and engage in the Super Emitter Response Program by ensuring that approved monitoring technologies and data are accessible to all, which will help reduce methane and other pollutants in the areas where we live and work.

Reducing methane waste from oil and gas operations is a commonsense and achievable climate solution. Communities on the frontlines of oil and gas operations bear the brunt of methane and other toxic emissions that are released. This is an issue of environmental justice.

My community is counting on your agency to quickly address these concerns, and to finalize strong, comprehensive new and existing source rules to cut methane pollution from the oil and gas sector before it's too late. Thank you for your consideration.



Tell the EPA  
to Strengthen  
the Methane Rule



Comment Period

Dec 6, 2022 to Feb 13, 2023

View the [terms of participation](#) and [privacy notice](#) for Regulations.gov.

**Personalized comments are more effective. IPL encourages you to edit this comment to include a personal story about how methane pollution directly or indirectly impacts you or your community.**

Comment\*

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Submit Your Comment



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