## **Pipeline Research Council International**

# Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction Technologies

Cliff Johnson President, PRCI PHMSA Public Meeting – Houston, TX December 15, 2022



LEADING PIPELINE RESEARCH

#### **Pipeline Research Council International is...**

## PIPELINE

- Natural gas
- Crude oil & petroleum products
- Biofuels
- Hydrogen/renewable natural gas
- CO<sub>2</sub>
- Related facilities

## COUNCIL

- Forum for ideas & opportunities
- Peer-based
- Industry-driven
- Source of research inventory

RESEARCH

Knowledge
Technology
Deployment & transfer
Innovation

## INTERNATIONAL

Asia
Australia
Europe
Middle East
North America



# **Our Mission**

To collaboratively deliver relevant and innovative applied research to continually improve the global energy pipeline systems.



## **Our Vision**

Develop innovative solutions that provide for the safest, cleanest, and most efficient transportation and storage of energy via global pipeline systems.



#### **Our Members**

#### Worldwide Research Organization

- 45 North American Companies (U.S. & Canada)
- 25 Non-NA (Australia, Brazil, China, Europe, India, Japan, & Saudi Arabia)

#### 33 Energy Pipeline Operating Companies

- 15 Natural Gas Transmission
- 10 Liquid
- 8 Liquid/Natural Gas

#### • 3 Pipeline Industry Organization (PIO) Members

- American Petroleum Institute (API)
- Liquid Energy Pipelines Association (LEPA)
- Operations Technology Development (OTD)

#### • 30 Associate Members & Technical Program Associate Members

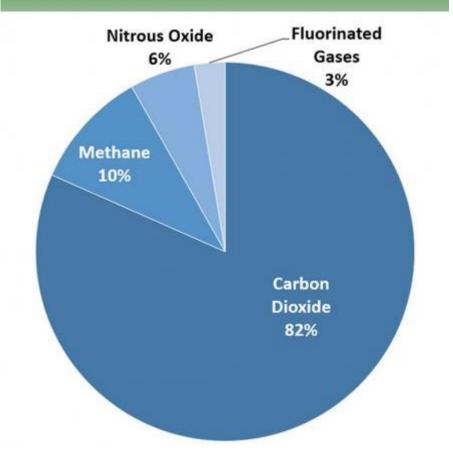
• Australia, Canada, China, Europe, Japan, U.S.

**Australia** Canada China France Germany India Ireland Japan **Netherlands** Norway Saudi Arabia **United Kingdom United States** 



## Background



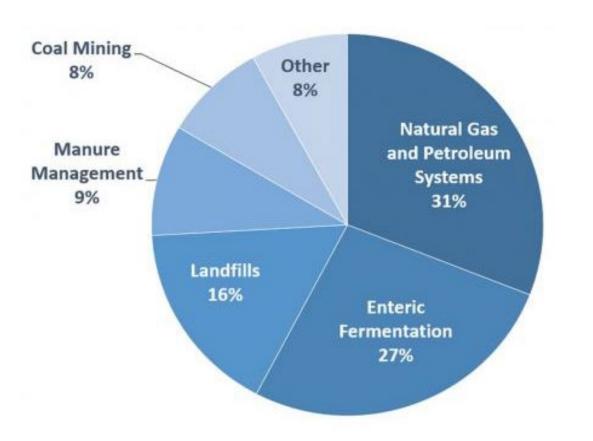


- Increased focus on reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions is increasingly becoming a social and, in turn, a business driver.
- Direct combustion of hydrocarbons is by far the highest source of greenhouse gases



## Background

2017 U.S. Methane Emissions, By Source



- Methane emissions is the second highest source
  - Relatively small reductions in methane have a larger net impact in greenhouse emissions as it is a more potent GHG than CO2 (CH4 = 25 X CO2 per EPA Subpart W GHG reporting Global Warming Potential based on 100 year time horizon).
- So the pipeline industry should tackle reduction in GHG emissions through
  - Reduced combustion/efficiency optimization
  - Reduced methane emissions



#### Impact to the Industry

- GHG is a global issue
- It impacts both gas and liquid operators but has a large impact to the gas industry as the equipment used to compress gas utilizes natural gas as a fuel and has methane emissions.
- Regulatory drivers to reduce methane emissions
- Tie to Safety, less methane in atmosphere = safer environment



#### **Executive Summary**

- Greenhouse Gas Strategic Research Priority
  - It provides a roadmap of research projects to significantly reduce GHG emissions from pipeline transmission (mostly gas but also liquids)
  - Will provide our industry with GHG reduction solutions to implement and reduce our carbon footprint
- Multi-million-dollar, three-year plan to quantumly accelerate pipeline related research to meaningfully reduce greenhouse gases



#### What We Have Done

- The industry has significantly reduced its greenhouse footprint
  - Especially with respect to methane emissions
  - Analysis of the EPA Subpart W data shows a marked decrease from 2018 over 2015
    - The 2015 emission factors are significantly lower than the GRI emissions factors currently in use
- But there will always be areas where additional improvements can be made

PR-312-18209-E01 Methane Emission Factors for Natural Gas Transmission and Storage Compressors Pipeline Research

Council International



Compressor Type	EPA GHG Inventory (2013 - ) Emission Factor (scf CH <sub>4</sub> /day)	Subpart W-based Emission Factor (scf CH <sub>4</sub> /day)
Transmission – Reciprocating	15,205	9,582
Transmission – Centrifugal (Wet Seal)	50,222	7,730
Transmission – Centrifugal (Dry Seal)	32,208	8,943
Storage - Reciprocating	21,711	12,602



## **Measure of Success & Desired Outcomes**

- Successful implementation of research projects over 3 years which covers multiple Technical Committees include:
  - Develop economic prioritization model / tool to help identify the GHG reduction efforts that provide the largest net reduction in GHG emissions per net present value of spend
    - Work proposed in advance of the SRP but being done in coordination with the SRP
  - Increasing efficiency of both compressor driver and driven equipment
  - Reducing blowdowns
  - Reducing fugitive leaks
  - Develop enhanced natural gas leak detection/quantification methods
  - Enhance leak mitigation programs
  - Develop alternatives to natural gas pneumatic control devices
  - Work to change regulation that doesn't make sense

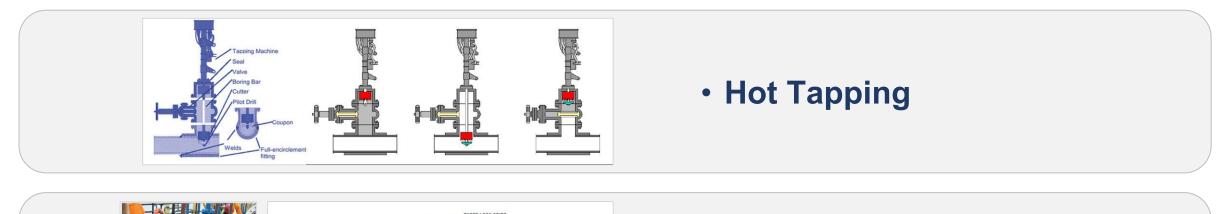


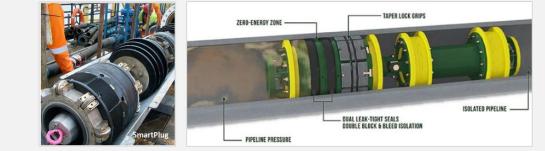
## **Co-Funding**

- PHMSA award for PRCI project
  - Innovative Leak Detection Methods for Gas Pipelines
  - Supports both the greenhouse gas and leak detection SRPs
  - Develops methods to reduce measurement uncertainty to allow smaller detection levels with continuous pipeline monitoring and other online hydraulic modeling systems

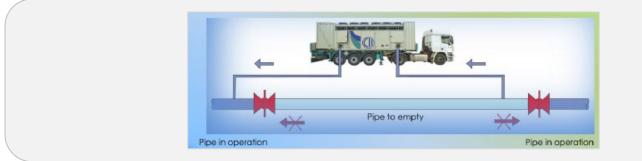


#### Mitigating Emissions from Blowdowns and Repairs





#### Smart Pipeline Isolation



# Zero Emission Vacuum and Compression



### Mitigating Emissions from Blowdowns and Repairs





#### Composite Sleeves



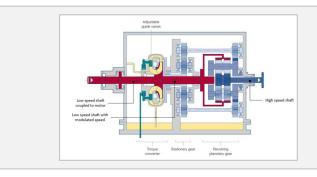
#### Mechanical Repair Clamps



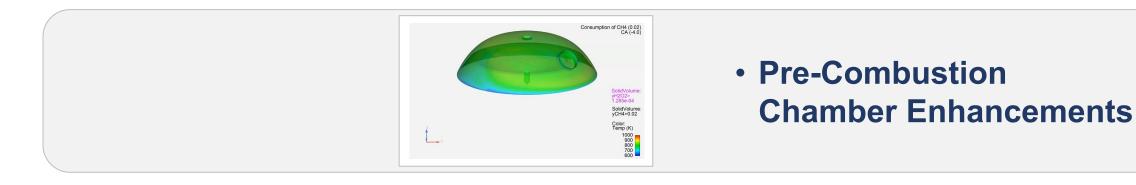
#### Leak clamps



## **Reducing Emissions through Efficiency Improvements**



#### Voith Vorecon Gearbox and Speed Controller





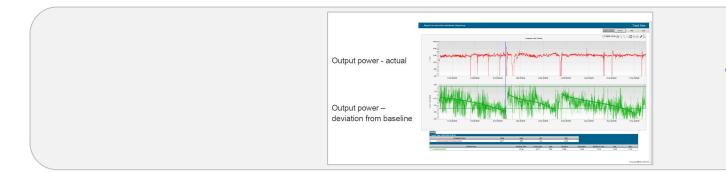


### **Efficiency Improvements to Reduce GHG Emission**



#### Dual-Driven System

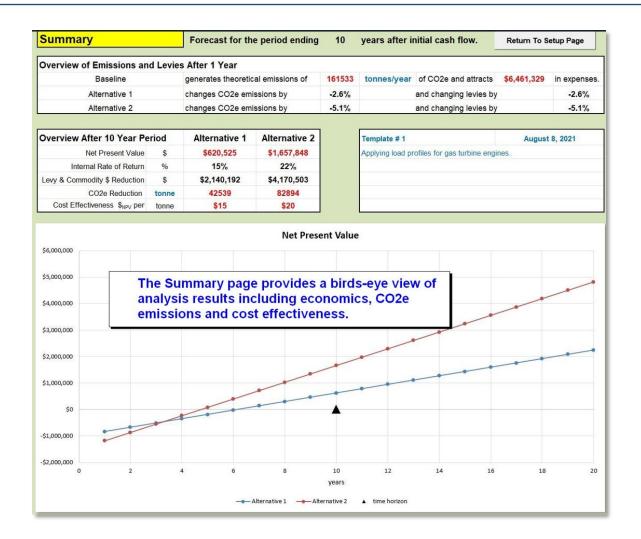




Continuous Monitoring
 of Equipment Efficiency



#### **Making Informed GHG Decisions**



#### PRCI's CO<sub>2e</sub> Economic Analysis Tool





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