

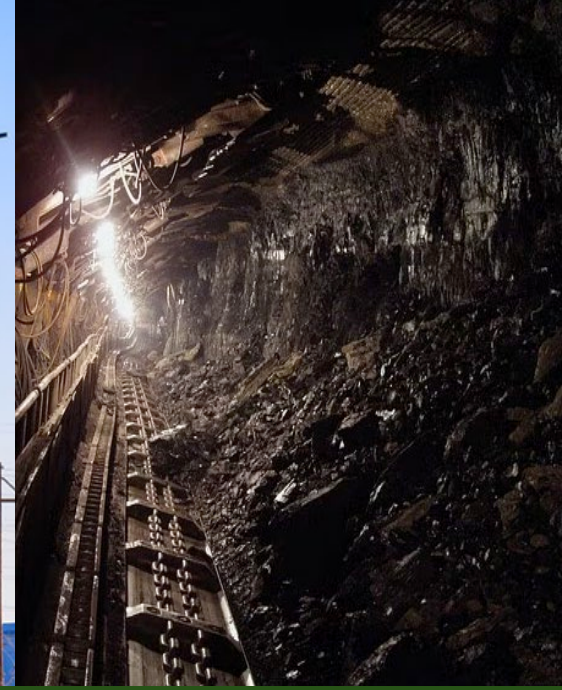


Abatement of Methane Emissions in the Oil & Gas Sector

Deborah Gordon
Senior Principal, RMI

London Climate Action Week
June 23, 2026





Mitigate all human sources of methane.
Oil and gas is a top opportunity.



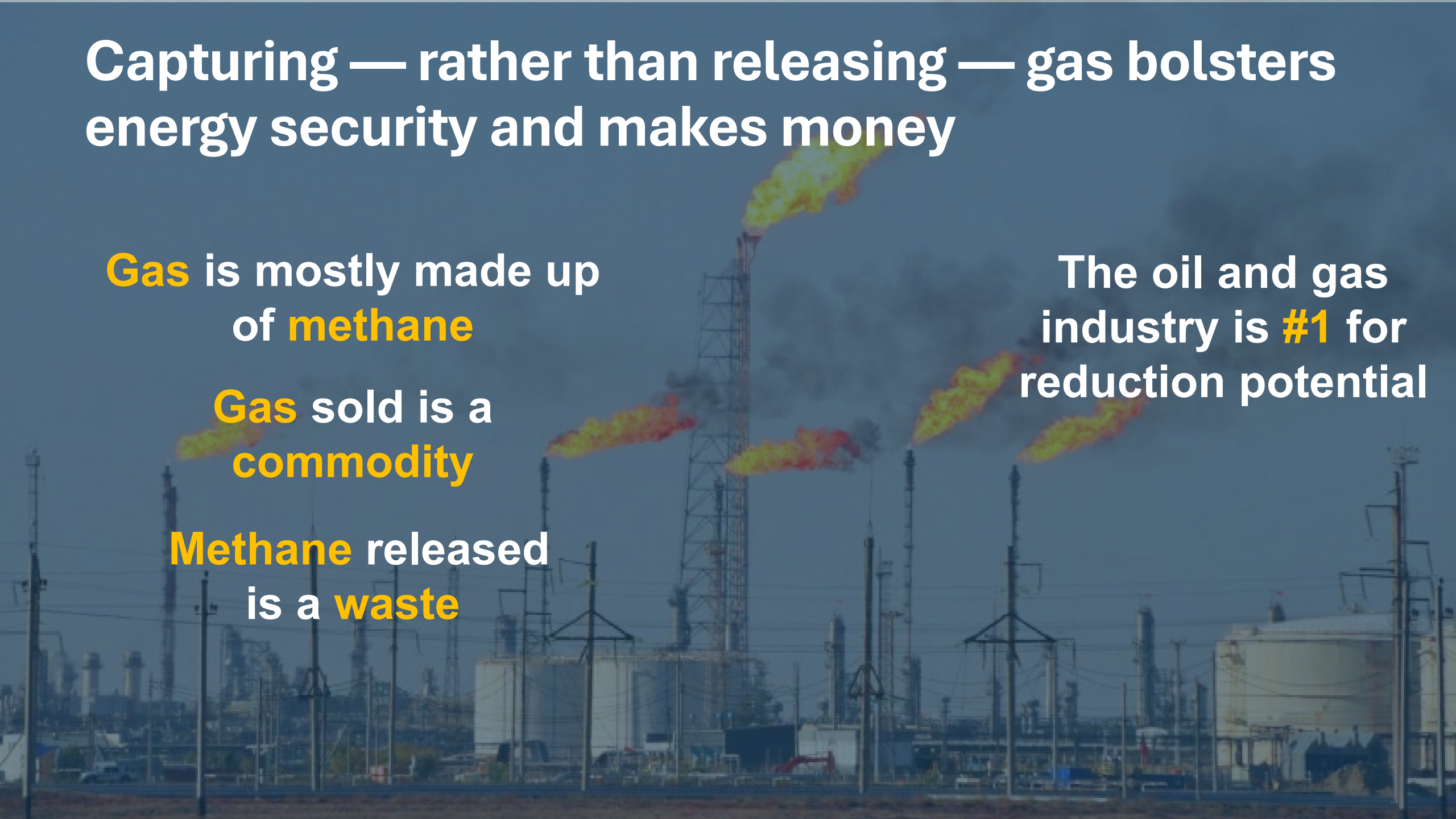
Capturing — rather than releasing — gas bolsters energy security and makes money

Gas is mostly made up of **methane**

Gas sold is a commodity

Methane released is a **waste**

The oil and gas industry is **#1** for reduction potential



The World Wastes More Gas Each Year Than the Strait of Hormuz Supplies.

Wasted Methane, Wasted Value

Every year, more gas is lost from ongoing losses than is exported from the Strait of Hormuz, currently blocked by the US-Iran war

Energy losses from global oil and gas systems from venting and flaring gas, 2024 est.

280

Liquefied natural gas (LNG) exported via the Strait of Hormuz, 2024

112

Billion cubic meters

Chart: RMI • **Source:** RMI analysis of IEA and Statistical Review of World Energy data

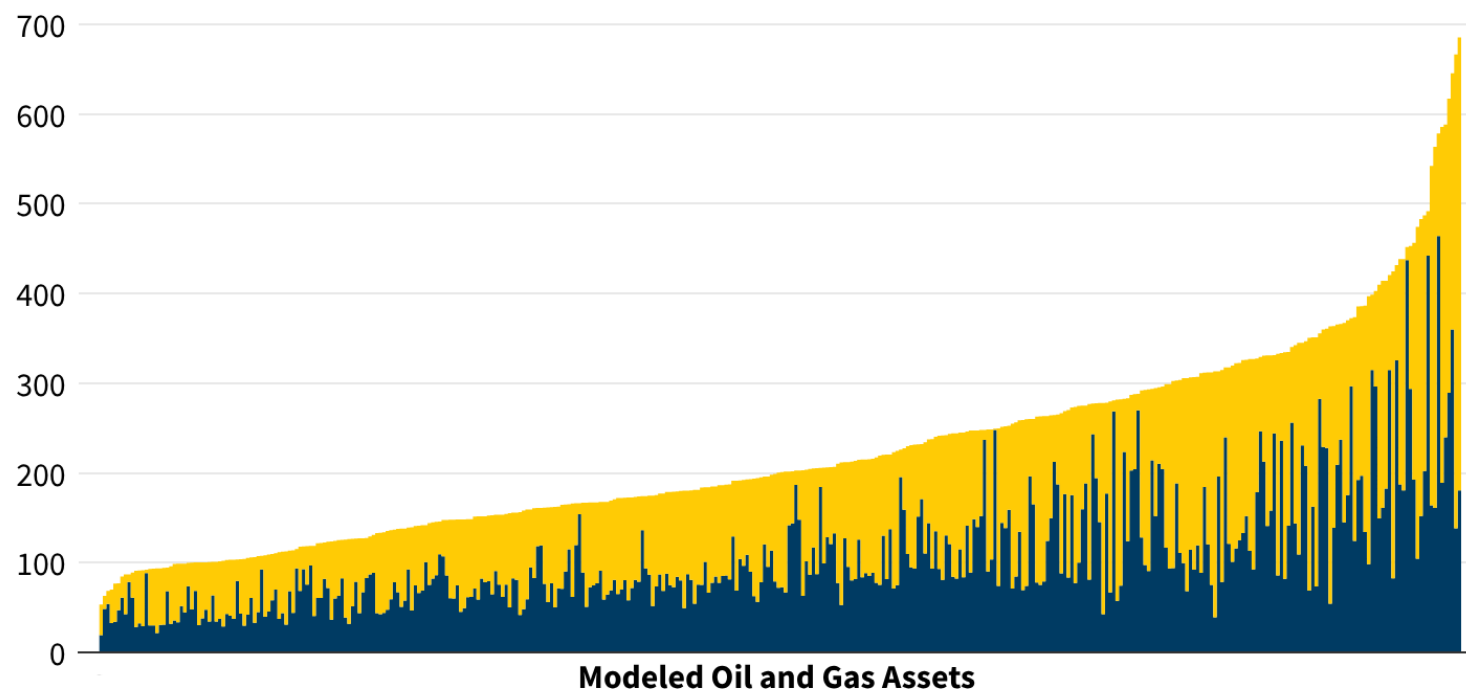


By mitigating methane, we can slash up to one-half of O&G industry GHG emissions

Cutting methane leakage slashes oil and gas industry emissions

Industry Emissions Intensity (kg CO₂e/boe)

■ Industry Non-Methane ■ Industry Methane



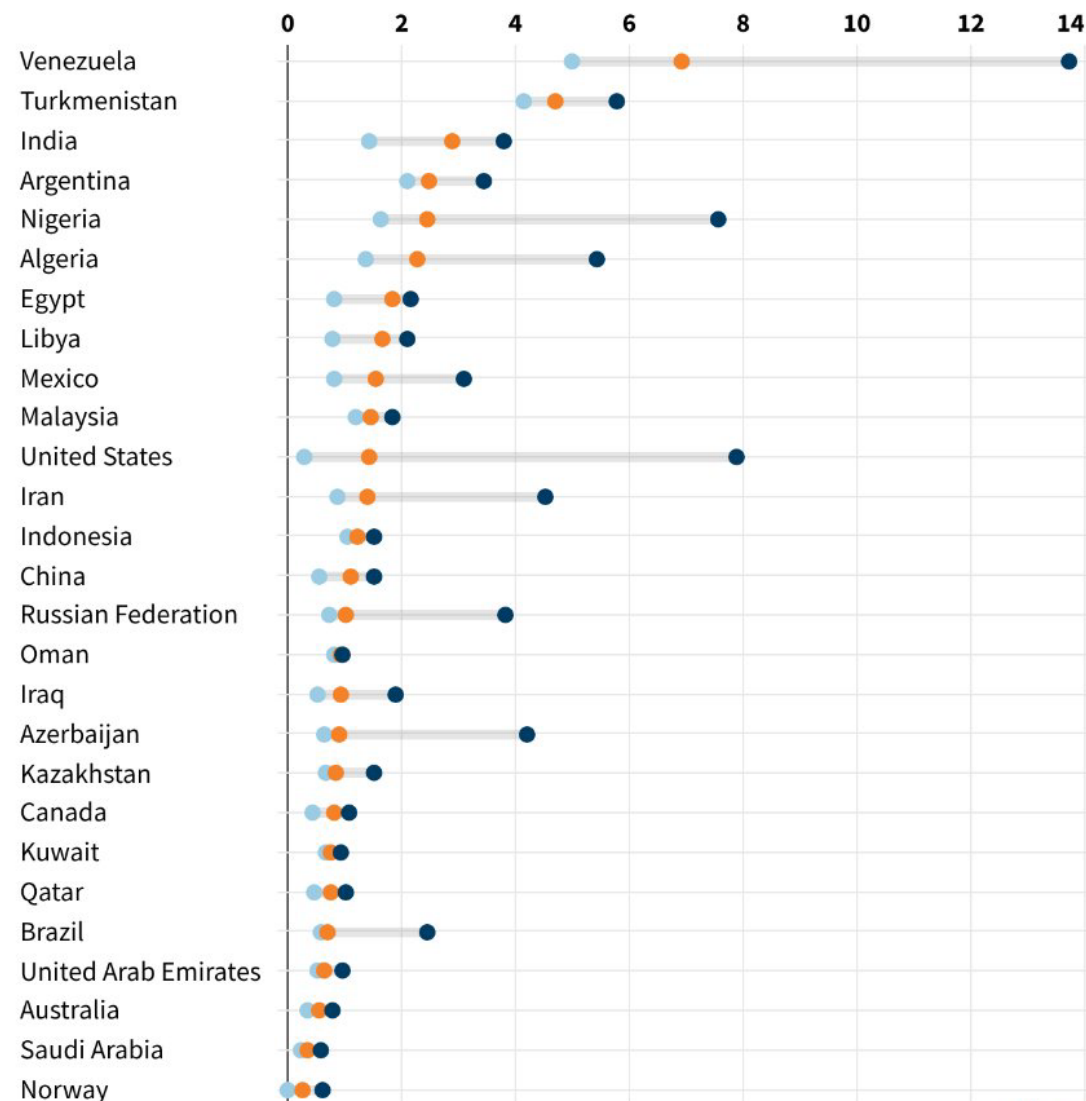
Note: Emissions intensity values assume a 20-year global warming potential (GWP) for methane of 82.5 times CO₂.

Source: RMI OCI+, June 2025

Methane intensities from O&G production vary widely between and within oil- and gas-producing countries.

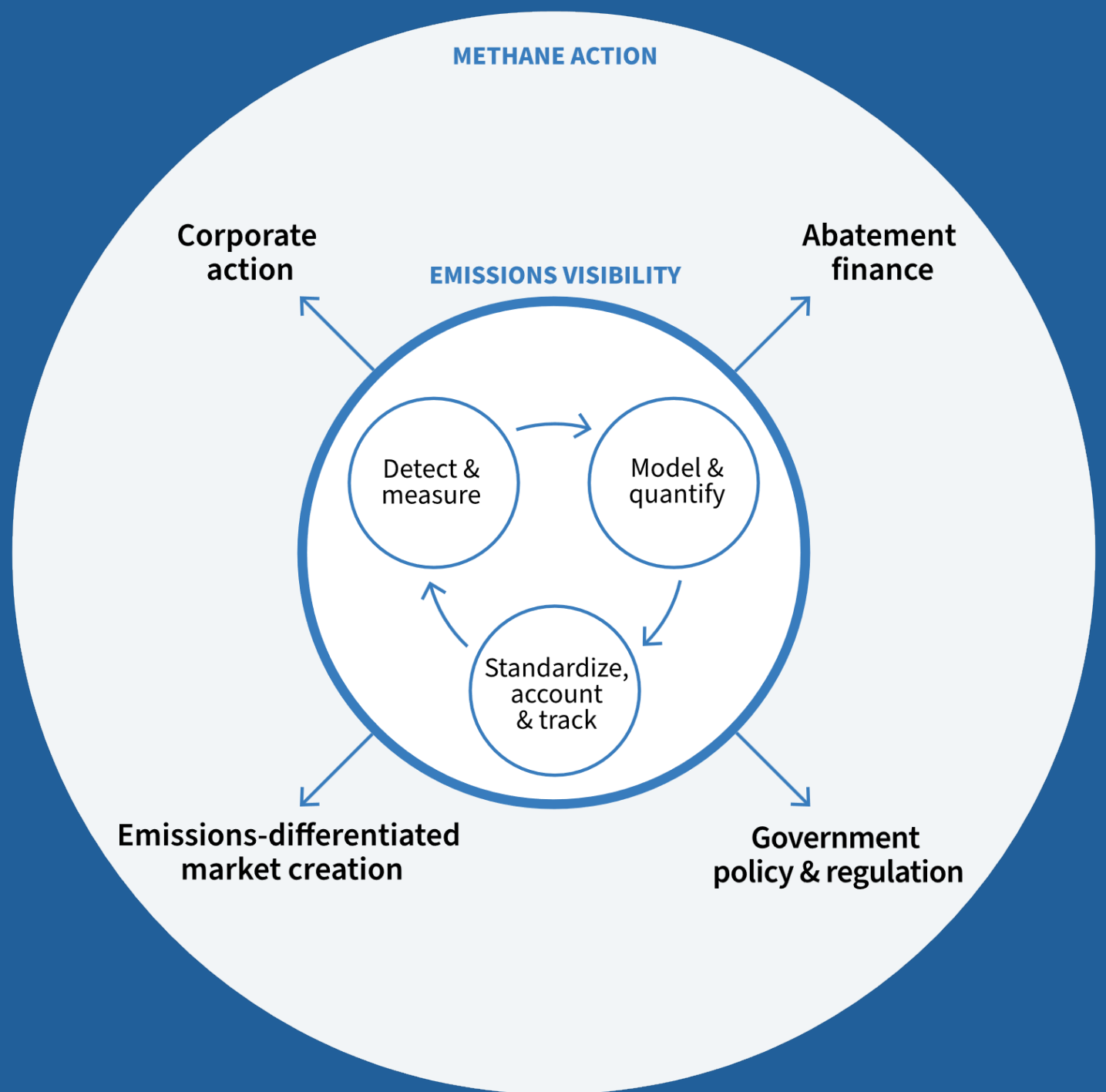
Upstream methane intensity (kgCH₄/boe)

● Min ● Production Weighted Average ● Max



Source: RMI, OCI+, 2025, <https://ociplus.rmi.org>

**Differentiating
oil and gas
methane
requires a
framework to
drive data-to-
action**



A few examples of methane data-to-action, in addition to Harvard Salata Institute and SLB



Publicly tracking methane intensity from 75% global O&G supplies



Monitoring & measuring methane super-emitters



Tracking emissions from 100% global production



Reanalyzed global gas flaring with VIIRS nightlights algorithm



Global Methane Tracker



Analyzing GHGs that are largely absent from climate frameworks



160 countries, 30% reduction by 2030



EU Methane Regulations



US states' methane policy, Buyer-Seller Alliance, and marginal well assessment



Independently certifying O&G company methane emissions

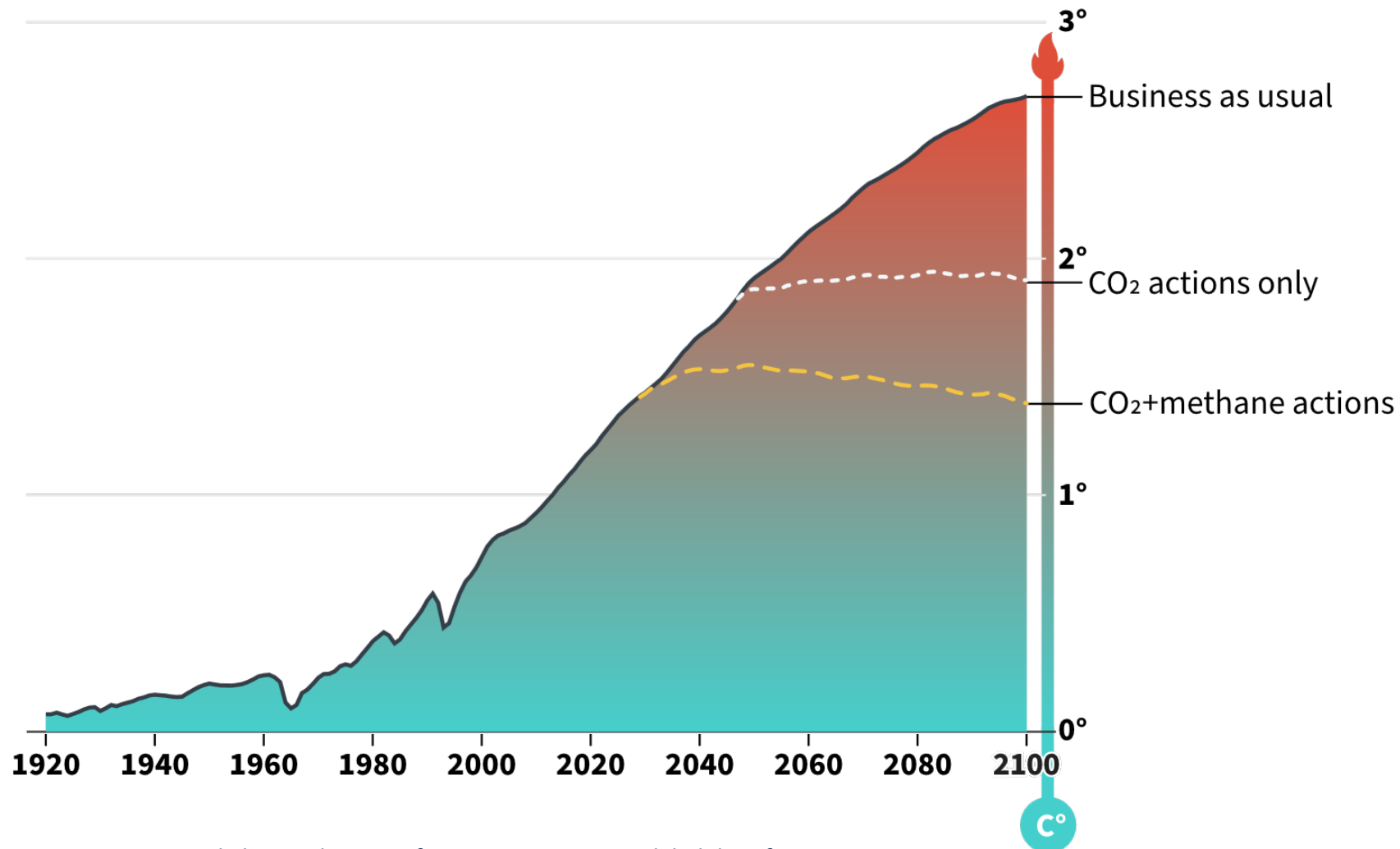


Methane Intensity Calculator for underwriting O&G companies



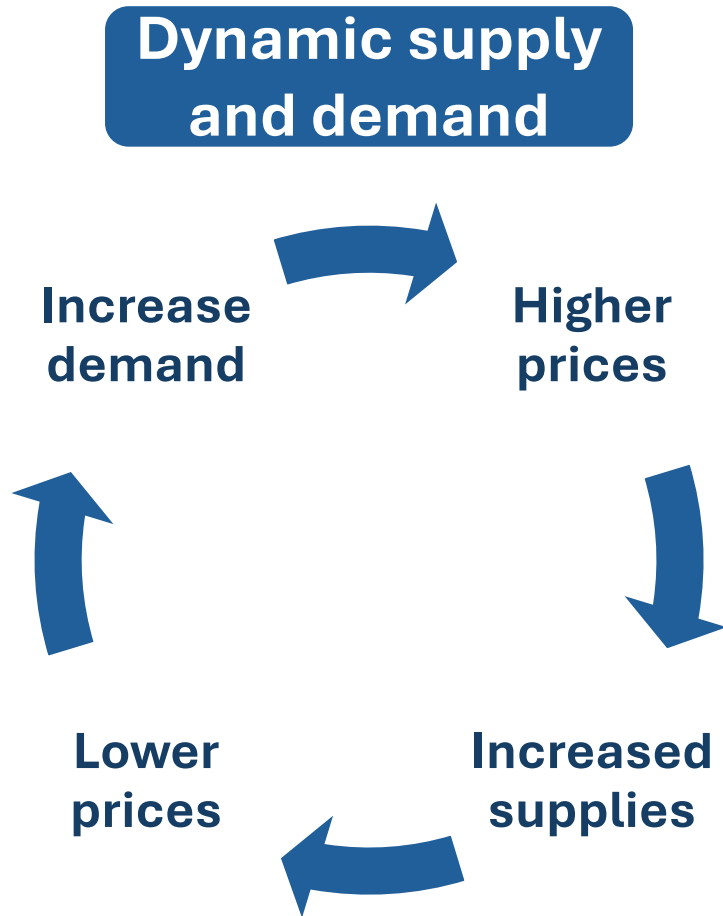
O&G Decarbonization Charter: Stop routine flaring and venting of gas

Scientific influence: Methane's role in bending the curve is critical.



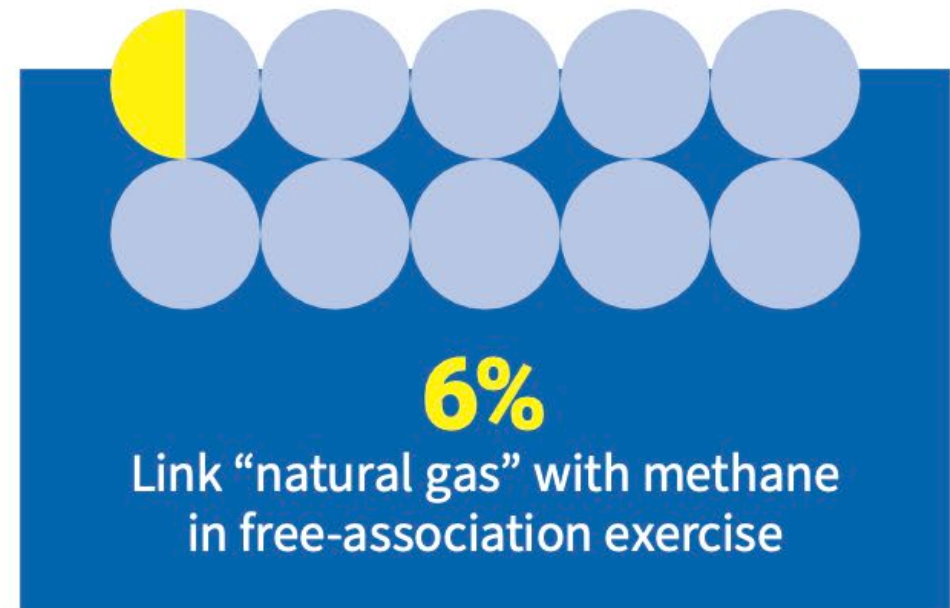
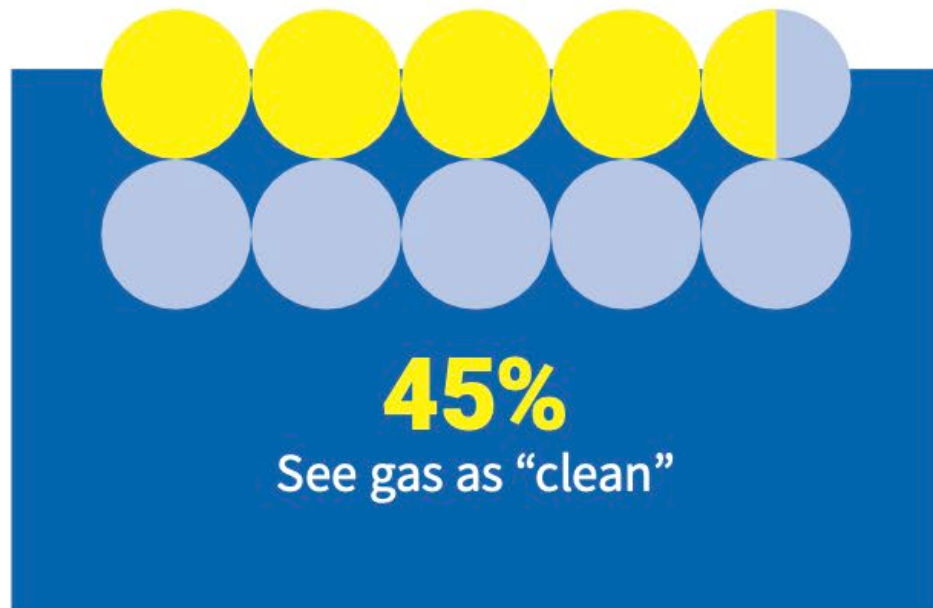
Source: RMI article by Gordon, Dreyfus, Loitxate using modeled data from Reisinger, 2024.

Economic influence: Global and local market forces matter.



**Price Volatility &
O&G Methane**

Civil society and media influence: We need to educate the public and shift the narrative.

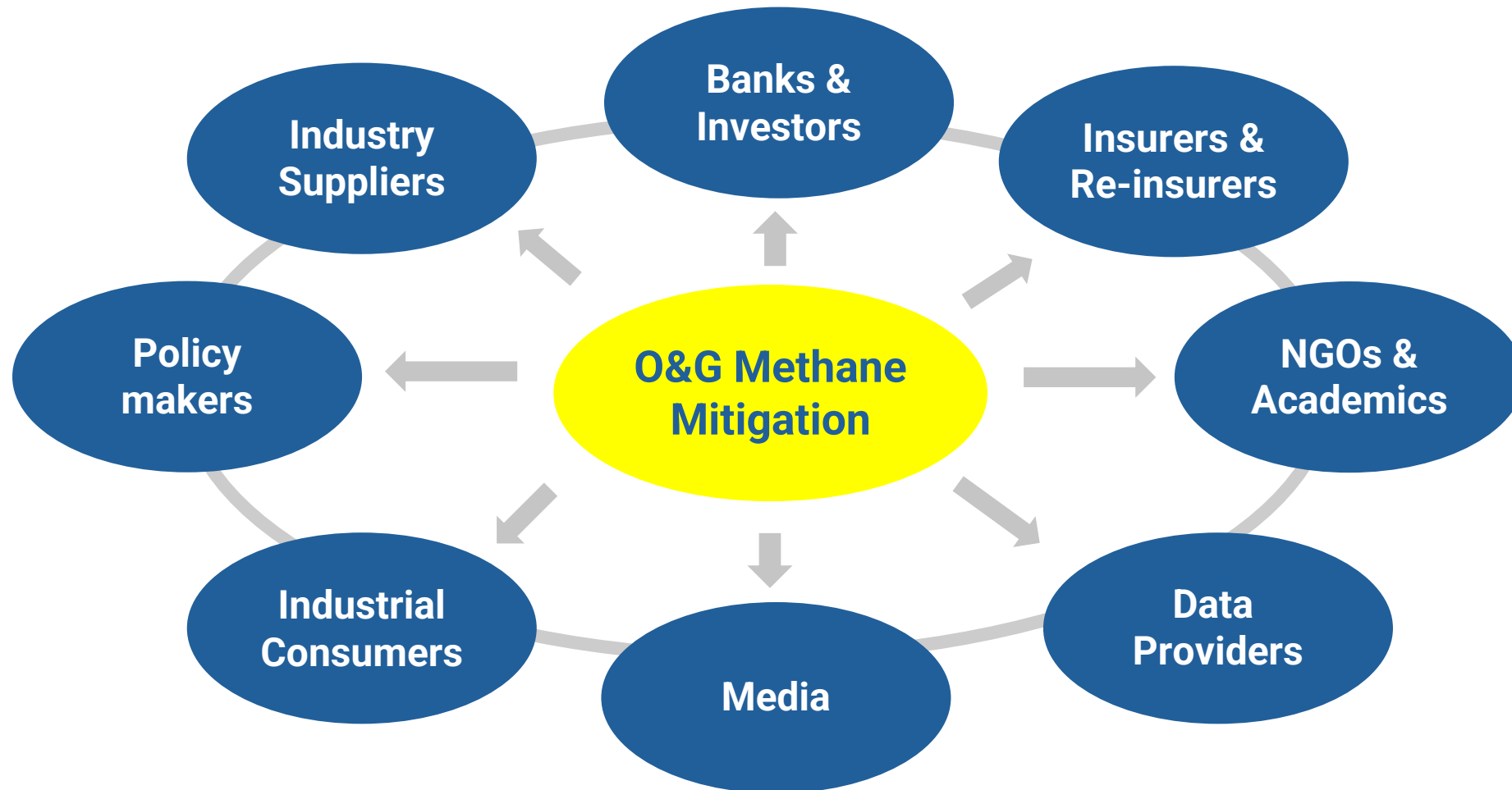


2025 survey of >6k Americans.

Gas is mostly methane. When it leaks, it’s not “clean”.

Stakeholder influence:

Engaging multiple actors is key.



**We live in an energy-hungry, warming world.
This increases the urgency of preventing energy
waste and mitigating oil and gas methane now.**

