

Methane emission detection, quantification and repair campaign in Ukraine

In November 2014, Carbon Limits started a collaboration on methane emission mitigation with the Ukrainian state gas production company UkrGasVydobuvannya (UGV). UGV is a vertically integrated company and produces around 15 BCM (billion m³) of natural gas per year¹, representing 75% of Ukraine's total gas production.

In April 2015, Carbon Limits successfully completed a pilot leak measurement and repair survey at two of UGV's midstream facilities. The campaigns successfully detected and quantified methane emission sources, which were repaired by UGV's maintenance personnel at the sites immediately after detection. Several significant vents have been quantified, including the venting from liquid tanks. The data will serve as the basis to identify viable emissions reduction opportunities.

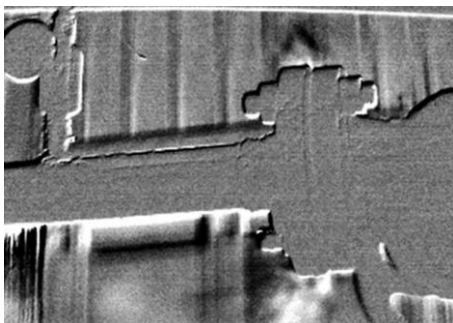
The campaign also served as an effective vehicle to increase awareness and draw the management's attention to the scale of the issue: the leak detection team was supported by the sites' senior technical personnel, unit managers, the facilities' own leak identification teams and repair and support personnel. The senior management of the facilities also followed the campaign to observe the detection team in action and were updated on the preliminary results of the campaign before the team left the facility.

The project will be completed with a capacity building workshop in Kiev. UGV has been supportive of the project and is keen to support its continuation. Carbon Limits will be seeking financing to extend the collaboration, in particular to cover upstream facilities but also to develop long-term modern leakage management plans together with the company.

According to a recent report (Rhodium, 2015), Ukraine is the 13th largest emitter of methane from oil and gas systems (above Nigeria, for example), and its emissions are expected to increase by 9% by 2030. Energy security is a critical issue for Ukraine, and there is thus a strong rationale to spur more action on this issue in the country.

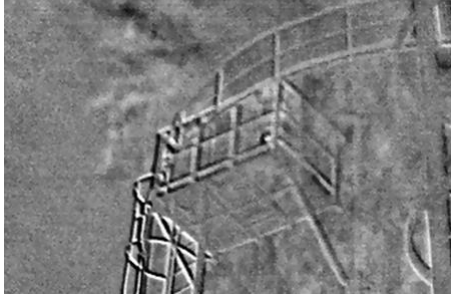
A few pictures from the detection and measurement campaign:

Leak at a connecting flange



¹ UGV also produces 530 thousand tons of condensate and an estimated 160 thousand tons of oil per year. Based on 2012 data <http://ugv.com.ua/en/activities/production>

Venting from tanks



Measurement of the composition of the leaking gas



Recording the ID# of the leaking component



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