

## Downstream Natural Gas Initiative Statement on the President's Methane Strategy

For Immediate Release

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Today, the White House announced the next steps in the Administration's strategy to reduce methane emissions under the President's Climate Action Plan. The Downstream Initiative supports the goal of reducing methane emissions and is committed to continued engagement with the Administration.

"We are committed to working with the Administration to advance the Natural Gas STAR Gold Program while examining additional strategies to achieve methane emission reductions from the distribution segment," said Brian Jones, Senior Vice President at MJB&A. "The Downstream Initiative looks forward to advancing opportunities that can substantially reduce methane emissions and support safe, reliable, and cost-effective service," said Jones.

"While natural gas utility companies have made progress over the years to reduce methane emissions through risk-driven infrastructure modernization programs, members of the Downstream Initiative are committed to taking a leadership role modernizing infrastructure to realize the safety, economic, environmental, and health benefits that natural gas provides to utility customers," said Jones.

"Downstream Initiative member companies look forward to continuing to engage with EPA and other stakeholders to develop an effective and transparent Gas STAR Gold Program for the distribution segment."

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The Downstream Natural Gas Initiative is made up of a group of leading natural gas utilities collaborating to address key technical, regulatory, and workforce challenges affecting methane emission reduction opportunities from the natural gas distribution segment. Members include Consolidated Edison Company of New York, Inc., National Grid, Pacific Gas & Electric, Public Service Electric & Gas, Southern California Gas Company, and Xcel Energy.