

Basic information	
<p>2021/0423(COD)</p> <p>COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure) Regulation</p>	Procedure completed
<p>Methane emissions reduction in the energy sector</p> <p>Amending Regulation 2019/942 2016/0378(COD)</p> <p>Subject</p> <p>3.70.02 Atmospheric pollution, motor vehicle pollution</p> <p>Legislative priorities</p> <p>Joint Declaration 2022 Joint Declaration 2023-24</p>	

Key players				
European Parliament	Joint committee responsible		Rapporteur	Appointed
	ENVI Environment, Public Health and Food Safety		CANFIN Pascal (Renew)	26/04/2023
	ITRE Industry, Research and Energy		PAULUS Jutta (Greens/EFA)	26/04/2023
			<p>Shadow rapporteur</p> <p>SPYRAKI Maria (EPP)</p> <p>SALINI Massimiliano (EPP)</p> <p>SIDL Günther (S&D)</p> <p>GEIER Jens (S&D)</p> <p>HOJSÍK Martin (Renew)</p> <p>ZALEWSKA Anna (ECR)</p> <p>KLOC Izabela-Helena (ECR)</p> <p>REIL Guido (ID)</p> <p>WALLACE Mick (The Left)</p>	
	Committee for opinion		Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	BUDG Budgets		The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
AGRI Agriculture and Rural Development		LINS Norbert (EPP)	01/04/2022	

	Committee for opinion on the legal basis	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	JURI Legal Affairs	LAGODINSKY Sergey (Greens/EFA)	01/01/2024
Council of the European Union			
European Commission	Commission DG	Commissioner	
	Energy	SIMSON Kadri	
European Economic and Social Committee			
European Committee of the Regions			

Key events			
Date	Event	Reference	Summary
15/12/2021	Legislative proposal published	COM(2021)0805 	
07/03/2022	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 1st reading		
09/06/2022	Referral to joint committee announced in Parliament		
26/04/2023	Vote in committee, 1st reading		
28/04/2023	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading	A9-0162/2023	
08/05/2023	Debate in Parliament		
09/05/2023	Results of vote in Parliament		
09/05/2023	Decision by Parliament		
09/05/2023	Matter referred back to the committee responsible for interinstitutional negotiations		
11/01/2024	Approval in committee of the text agreed at 1st reading interinstitutional negotiations	GEDA/A/(2024)001596 PE757.975	
10/04/2024	Decision by Parliament, 1st reading	T9-0190/2024	Summary
10/04/2024	Results of vote in Parliament		
27/05/2024	Act adopted by Council after Parliament's 1st reading		
13/06/2024	Final act signed		
15/07/2024	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2021/0423(COD)
Procedure type	COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure)

Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Regulation
Amendments and repeals	Amending Regulation 2019/942 2016/0378(COD)
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 59 Rules of Procedure EP 41 Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union TFEU 194-p3 Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union TFEU 194-p2
Mandatory consultation of other institutions	European Economic and Social Committee European Committee of the Regions
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	CJ10/9/09253

Documentation gateway				
European Parliament				
Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Specific opinion	AGRI	PE735.469	18/07/2022	
Committee draft report		PE736.476	15/09/2022	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE737.438	24/10/2022	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE737.459	24/10/2022	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE737.460	24/10/2022	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE737.463	24/10/2022	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A9-0162/2023	28/04/2023	
Text adopted by Parliament, partial vote at 1st reading /single reading		T9-0127/2023	09/05/2023	Summary
Specific opinion	JURI	PE758.222	24/01/2024	
Text agreed during interinstitutional negotiations		PE757.975	15/03/2024	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T9-0190/2024	10/04/2024	Summary
Council of the EU				
Document type	Reference	Date	Summary	
Coreper letter confirming interinstitutional agreement	GEDA/A/(2024)001596	15/03/2024		
Draft final act	00086/2023/LEX	13/06/2024		
European Commission				
Document type	Reference	Date	Summary	
Legislative proposal	COM(2021)0805 	15/12/2021		
Document attached to the procedure	SEC(2021)0432	15/12/2021		
	SWD(2021)0459			

Document attached to the procedure		15/12/2021	
Document attached to the procedure	SWD(2021)0460 	15/12/2021	

National parliaments

Document type	Parliament/Chamber	Reference	Date	Summary
Reasoned opinion	CZ_CHAMBER	PE731.661	29/04/2022	
Contribution	IE_HOUSES-OF-OIREACHTAS	COM(2021)0805	08/08/2022	

Other institutions and bodies

Institution/body	Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
EESC	Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report	CES6401/2021	18/05/2022	
CofR	Committee of the Regions: opinion	CDR1522/2022	12/10/2022	

Additional information

Source	Document	Date
EP Research Service	Briefing	14/03/2022
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Meetings with interest representatives published in line with the Rules of Procedure

Rapporteurs, Shadow Rapporteurs and Committee Chairs

Transparency				
Name	Role	Committee	Date	Interest representatives
GEIER Jens	Shadow rapporteur for opinion	ITRE	03/04/2024	Environmental Defense Fund Europe
PAULUS Jutta	Rapporteur	ITRE	17/01/2024	Deutsche Umwelthilfe e.V.
PAULUS Jutta	Rapporteur	ITRE	10/01/2024	Climate Action Network Europe FoEE
HOJSÍK Martin	Shadow rapporteur	ENVI	24/11/2023	Clean Air Task Force, Inc. Clean Air Task Force (CATF)
GEIER Jens	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	13/11/2023	Uniper
PAULUS Jutta	Rapporteur	ITRE	10/11/2023	Clean Air Task Force, Inc. Climate Action Network Europe Deutsche Umwelthilfe e.V. Environmental Defense Fund Europe Environmental Investigation Agency Friends of the Earth Europe

PAULUS Jutta	Rapporteur	ITRE	09/11/2023	KAYRROS
PAULUS Jutta	Rapporteur	ITRE	09/11/2023	Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft und Klimaschutz Deutschland
REIL Guido	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	26/10/2023	EURACOAL
PAULUS Jutta	Rapporteur	ITRE	26/10/2023	DG ENER
PAULUS Jutta	Rapporteur	ITRE	25/10/2023	Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft und Klimaschutz Deutschland
PAULUS Jutta	Rapporteur	ITRE	18/10/2023	Environmental Defense Fund Europe
PAULUS Jutta	Rapporteur	ITRE	11/10/2023	Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft und Klimaschutz Deutschland
PAULUS Jutta	Rapporteur	ITRE	11/10/2023	DG ENER
SIDL Günther	Shadow rapporteur	ENVI	10/10/2023	NATURGY ENERGY GROUP
GEIER Jens	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	05/10/2023	Wien Energie GmbH
PAULUS Jutta	Rapporteur	ITRE	05/10/2023	Clean Air Task Force, Inc. Climate Action Network Europe Deutsche Umwelthilfe e.V. Environmental Defense Fund Europe Friends of the Earth Europe
PAULUS Jutta	Rapporteur	ITRE	27/09/2023	Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft und Klimaschutz Deutschland
GEIER Jens	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	21/09/2023	Gas Grid Group AISBL
PAULUS Jutta	Rapporteur	ITRE	21/09/2023	Clean Air Task Force, Inc. Climate Action Network Europe Deutsche Umwelthilfe e.V. Environmental Defense Fund Europe Friends of the Earth Europe
PAULUS Jutta	Rapporteur	ITRE	18/09/2023	Cyprus PermRep
GEIER Jens	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	13/09/2023	Gas Distributors for Sustainability
PAULUS Jutta	Rapporteur	ITRE	13/09/2023	EUROGAS aisbl
PAULUS Jutta	Rapporteur	ITRE	12/09/2023	Netherland PermRep
PAULUS Jutta	Rapporteur	ITRE	11/09/2023	International Energy Agency
SIDL Günther	Shadow rapporteur	ENVI	01/09/2023	Clean Air Task Force, Inc.
PAULUS Jutta	Rapporteur	ITRE	29/08/2023	Clean Air Task Force, Inc.
GEIER Jens	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	25/08/2023	International Association of Oil & Gas Producers Europe
GEIER Jens	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	27/07/2023	Environmental Defense Fund Europe
SPYRAKI Maria	Shadow rapporteur	ENVI	17/07/2023	IOGP
PAULUS Jutta	Rapporteur	ITRE	11/07/2023	Belgian PermRep
GEIER Jens	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	27/06/2023	Uniper
PAULUS Jutta	Rapporteur	ITRE	27/06/2023	Smart Energy for Europe Platform (SEFEP) gGmbH
GEIER Jens	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	26/06/2023	Gas Grid Group AISBL

GEIER Jens	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	12/06/2023	BDEW Bundesverband der Energie- und Wasserwirtschaft e. V.
SIDL Günther	Shadow rapporteur	ENVI	24/05/2023	NATURGY ENERGY GROUP
GEIER Jens	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	24/05/2023	International Association of Oil & Gas Producers Europe
GEIER Jens	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	20/04/2023	Project Canary
PAULUS Jutta	Rapporteur	ITRE	19/04/2023	industriAll European Trade Union
PAULUS Jutta	Rapporteur	ITRE	19/04/2023	Polish PermRep
SPYRAKI Maria	Shadow rapporteur	ENVI	18/04/2023	IOGP ENI
GEIER Jens	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	18/04/2023	Niezależny Samorządny Związek Zawodowy "Solidarność"
HOJSÍK Martin	Shadow rapporteur	ENVI	05/04/2023	E.ON SE GasNet, s.r.o. Pražská Plynárenská Distribuce (PPD)
GEIER Jens	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	05/04/2023	RWE AG
GEIER Jens	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	30/03/2023	EUROGAS aisbl
WALLACE Mick	Shadow rapporteur	ENVI	30/03/2023	Environmental Defense Fund Europe
KLOC Izabela-Helena	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	29/03/2023	Jastrzębska Spółka Węglowa S.A.
GEIER Jens	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	29/03/2023	industriAll European Trade Union
GEIER Jens	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	22/03/2023	TotalEnergies SE
HOJSÍK Martin	Shadow rapporteur	ENVI	03/03/2023	United Nations Environment Programme
GEIER Jens	Shadow rapporteur for opinion	ITRE	01/03/2023	Honeywell Europe NV
GEIER Jens	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	27/02/2023	Climate Action Network Europe
PAULUS Jutta	Rapporteur	ITRE	23/02/2023	2 celsius
HOJSÍK Martin	Shadow rapporteur	ENVI	22/02/2023	Kreab Project Canary
GEIER Jens	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	21/02/2023	European Association for Coal and Lignite
KLOC Izabela-Helena	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	07/02/2023	Orlen S.A.
ZALEWSKA Anna	Rapporteur	ENVI	07/02/2023	Orlen S.A. PGNiG
GEIER Jens	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	06/02/2023	Sandbag Climate Campaign CIC
PAULUS Jutta	Rapporteur	ITRE	03/02/2023	Clean Air Task Force
SIDL Günther	Shadow rapporteur	ENVI	25/01/2023	EDF EIA - Environmental Investigation Agency staff level
HOJSÍK Martin	Shadow rapporteur	ENVI	12/01/2023	Baker Hughes Holdings Rud Pedersen Public Affairs Brussels
PAULUS Jutta	Rapporteur	ENVI	08/12/2022	BMWK (German Federal Ministry for Economy and Climate)

HOJSÍK Martin	Shadow rapporteur	ENVI	28/11/2022	EUROGAS aisbl
PAULUS Jutta	Rapporteur	ENVI	24/11/2022	BMWK - German Federal Ministry on Economy and Climate
GEIER Jens	Shadow rapporteur for opinion	ITRE	22/11/2022	Gas Grid Group AISBL
WALLACE Mick	Shadow rapporteur	ENVI	14/10/2022	Environmental Defense Fund Europe
PAULUS Jutta	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	07/10/2022	Wintershall Dea AG
HOJSÍK Martin	Shadow rapporteur	ENVI	05/10/2022	Equinor ASA
SARDONE Silvia	Rapporteur	ENVI	04/10/2022	Eni S.p.A.
PAULUS Jutta	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	29/09/2022	Deutsche Umwelthilfe e.V.
GEIER Jens	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	28/09/2022	Uniper
PAULUS Jutta	Shadow rapporteur	ENVI	27/09/2022	Climate Action Network Europe EDF
HOJSÍK Martin	Shadow rapporteur	ENVI	27/09/2022	The European Association of Remote Sensing Companies
HOJSÍK Martin	Shadow rapporteur	ENVI	26/09/2022	Aeromon
PAULUS Jutta	Shadow rapporteur	ENVI	14/09/2022	Gas Infrastructure Europe
SARDONE Silvia	Rapporteur	ENVI	14/09/2022	EDF
SARDONE Silvia	Rapporteur	ENVI	14/09/2022	TotalEnergies SE
SARDONE Silvia	Rapporteur	ENVI	14/09/2022	Edison Spa
GEIER Jens	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	14/09/2022	International Association of Oil & Gas Producers Europe
PAULUS Jutta	Shadow rapporteur	ENVI	13/09/2022	Uniper Baker Hughes CATF EARSC PROJECT CANARY Verax
GEIER Jens	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	05/09/2022	Equinor ASA NOVE
SARDONE Silvia	Rapporteur	ENVI	31/08/2022	Sham S.p.A.
GEIER Jens	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	31/08/2022	Clean Air Task Force, Inc.
GEIER Jens	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	31/08/2022	Deutsche Umwelthilfe e.V.
GEIER Jens	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	31/08/2022	Environmental Defense Fund Europe
GEIER Jens	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	31/08/2022	Environmental Investigation Agency
GEIER Jens	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	31/08/2022	Stadtwerke München GmbH
GEIER Jens	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	31/08/2022	Thüga Aktiengesellschaft
GEIER Jens	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	31/08/2022	WIENER STADTWERKE GmbH

GEIER Jens	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	31/08/2022	BDEW Bundesverband der Energie- und Wasserwirtschaft e. V.
PAULUS Jutta	Shadow rapporteur	ENVI	29/08/2022	Honeywell Europe NV DEUS Equinor Sensirion Connected Solutions AiSight Smith Group
PAULUS Jutta	Shadow rapporteur	ENVI	05/07/2022	Ständige Vertretung Österreich
HOJSÍK Martin	Shadow rapporteur	ENVI	08/06/2022	International Association of Oil & Gas Producers Europe
SARDONE Silvia	Rapporteur	ENVI	08/06/2022	Eni S.p.A.
SARDONE Silvia	Rapporteur	ENVI	03/05/2022	European Association for Coal and Lignite
SARDONE Silvia	Rapporteur	ENVI	03/05/2022	International Association of Oil & Gas Producers Europe
PAULUS Jutta	Shadow rapporteur	ENVI	02/05/2022	Deutscher Naturschutzring, Dachverband der deutschen Natur-, Tier- und Umweltschutzverbände (DNR) e.V. Environmental Defense Fund Europe STEAG GmbH EIA IOGP
HOJSÍK Martin	Shadow rapporteur	ENVI	22/04/2022	FIPRA International SRL (FIPRA) Honeywell Europe NV (HON)
HOJSÍK Martin	Shadow rapporteur	ENVI	16/04/2022	DSM-Firmenich
HOJSÍK Martin	Shadow rapporteur	ITRE	29/03/2022	MiQ Methane Intelligence
HOJSÍK Martin	Shadow rapporteur	ENVI	18/03/2022	Engie
HOJSÍK Martin	Shadow rapporteur	ENVI	18/03/2022	Equinor
WALLACE Mick	Shadow rapporteur	ENVI	21/09/2021	Environmental Defense Fund Europe

Other Members

Transparency		
Name	Date	Interest representatives
TOIA Patrizia	12/10/2023	A2A
GEIER Jens	29/09/2023	RWE AG
KOHUT Łukasz	25/04/2023	Fundacja Instrat
KOHUT Łukasz	29/03/2023	Jastrzębska Spółka Węglowa S.A.
KOHUT Łukasz	29/03/2023	European Association of Coal and Lignite EURACOAL
KOHUT Łukasz	25/03/2023	Zarząd Regionu Śląsko-Dąbrowskiego NSZZ Solidarność
BALT Marek Paweł	25/03/2023	Jastrzębska Spółka Węglowa S.A. Niezależny Samorządny Związek Zawodowy "Solidarność" Ogólnopolskie Porozumienie Związków Zawodowych Polska Grupa Górnicza SA Porozumienie Związków Zawodowych "KADRA"
TOIA Patrizia	16/01/2023	LEGAMBIENTE NAZIONALE – APS – RETE ASSOCIATIVA – ETS
PETERSEN Morten	09/03/2022	Equinor ASA

Methane emissions reduction in the energy sector

2021/0423(COD) - 09/05/2023

The European Parliament adopted by 477 votes to 53, with 98 abstentions, **amendments** to the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on methane emissions reduction in the energy sector and amending Regulation (EU) 2019/942.

The matter was referred back to the competent committees for inter-institutional negotiations.

The main amendments adopted in plenary concern the following points:

Union target for methane emissions reduction

In order to achieve the long-term temperature objective of the Paris Agreement, the objective of zero net greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 and **the objective of the global methane commitment to reduce global anthropogenic methane emissions by at least 30% by 2030** compared to 2020 levels, the Commission should propose, by 31 December 2025 at the latest and on the basis of an impact assessment, a binding EU methane emission reduction target for 2030, covering all relevant emitting sectors.

Member States should jointly ensure that methane emissions from the energy sector in the Union are reduced to a level that achieves the social benefits of methane mitigation at least cost by 2030 at the latest. Member States should set national methane emission reduction targets as part of their integrated national energy and climate plans.

Verifications

Verifiers should assess the conformity of the emissions reports submitted to them by operators, mine operators or importers, insofar as those importers are required to do so. Where no European or international standards are available, operators or mine operators should provide information to the verifiers on the standards or methodologies used by the operators, mine operators or importers for the purpose of verification activities. Verifiers should conduct **announced and unannounced site checks** to determine the reliability, credibility and accuracy of the data sources and methodologies used.

Monitoring and reporting

No later than 10 months from the date of entry into force of the Regulation, operators should submit to the competent authorities, for all sources, a **report** containing the quantification of source-level methane emissions estimated using at least generic emission factors for all sources.

Operators and undertakings established in the Union should submit a report to the competent authorities containing a quantification of source level methane emissions: (i) for operated assets no later than 12 months from the date of entry into force of the Regulation; and (ii) for non-operated assets no later than 24 months from the date of entry into force of the Regulation, provided that these assets have not already been reported by an operator.

Monitoring and reporting should refer to the global warming potential, which is on a 100-year time scale 29,8 times greater than carbon dioxide and 8,5 times more potent than carbon dioxide on a 20-year time scale.

Mitigation

Operators should take all appropriate mitigation measures available to them to prevent and minimise methane emissions from their operations. No later than 6 months after the entry into force of the Regulation, the Commission should present a report on the impact of the introduction of an ambitious upstream performance standard for methane emission intensity for the oil and gas imported into or extracted from the Union.

Detecting and repairing leaks

No later than **6 months** from the date of entry into force of the Regulation, operators should submit a leakage detection and repair programme to the competent authorities. Not later than 9 months from the date of entry into force of the Regulation, operators should carry out an investigation of all relevant components under their responsibility in accordance with the leakage detection and repair programme.

Thereafter, leak detection and repair surveys should be carried out at the following frequencies:

- **once every two months** for all above-ground components using detection devices with the minimum detection limit of 17 grams per hour of methane at standard temperature and pressure;
- **once every four months** for all above-ground components using detection devices with a minimum detection limit of 50 ppm by volume of methane or 1 gram per hour;

- **once every five months** for all underground components using detection devices with the minimum detection limit of 500 ppm or 5 grams/hour of methane for underground components.

Operators should repair or replace all methane leaking components. The repair or replacement of the components should take place immediately after detection, or as soon as possible for a first attempt but **no later than five days after detection**. Repairs or replacements should use state-of-the-art technologies and materials that provide long-term protection against future leakage.

Where operators can demonstrate that the repair is not successful or possible within five days due to safety or technical considerations, the operators should provide evidence for the delay to the competent authorities and shall establish a **repair and monitoring schedule** no later than 5 days after detection. The repair and monitoring **schedule** should be set so that the found leakages are repaired within **30 days** after detection.

Operators should establish, maintain and make fully available to the competent authorities, a record of all decisions to delay repair. Every year, operators should submit a report summarising the results of all the surveys completed and all corresponding repair and monitoring schedules during the previous year to the competent authorities of the Member State where the relevant assets are located.

Prohibition of methane venting

Venting of methane through ventilation shafts in coal mines emitting more than five tonnes of methane/kilotonne of coal mined, other than coking coal mines, should be prohibited from 1 January 2027, except where it would pose a direct threat to the health and life of working miners and would increase the work-safety risk in mining plants. Venting of methane through ventilation shafts in coal mines emitting more than three tonnes of methane /kilotonne of coal mined, other than coking coal mines, should be **prohibited from 1 January 2031**.

Importer requirements

As of 1 January **2026**, importers of coal, oil and gas, should demonstrate that exporters of coal, oil and gas into the Union comply with the requirements for the measurement, monitoring, reporting and verification, leak detection and repair, and venting and flaring established in this Regulation.

Methane emissions reduction in the energy sector

2021/0423(COD) - 15/07/2024 - Final act

PURPOSE: to establish rules for the accurate measurement, quantification, monitoring, reporting and verification of methane emissions, as well as for the reduction of such emissions in the EU energy sector.

LEGISLATIVE ACT: Regulation (EU) 2024/1787 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the reduction of methane emissions in the energy sector and amending Regulation (EU) 2019/942.

CONTENT: this regulation is part of the 'Fit for 55' package. It lays down rules for the accurate measurement, quantification, monitoring, reporting and verification of methane emissions in the energy sector in the Union, as well as the reduction of those emissions, including through leak detection and repair surveys, repair obligations and restrictions on venting and flaring. This regulation also lays down rules on tools ensuring transparency as regards methane emissions.

This regulation applies to:

- oil and fossil gas exploration and production, and fossil gas gathering and processing;
- inactive wells, temporarily plugged wells and permanently plugged and abandoned wells;
- natural gas transmission and distribution, excluding metering systems at final consumption points and the parts of service lines between the distribution network and the metering system located on the property of final customers, as well as underground storage and operations in LNG facilities; and
- active underground coal mines and surface coal mines, closed underground coal mines and abandoned underground coal mines.

Stricter rules on monitoring and reporting

Operators will **measure methane emissions at source level** and **draw up monitoring reports** that will be checked by independent accredited verifiers. By 5 August 2025, operators will submit a report to the competent authorities containing the quantification of source-level methane emissions estimated using at least generic emission factors for all sources.

Member States will maintain and regularly update an inventory of all wells, as well as mitigation plans for **inactive wells**, to prevent any public health and environmental risks from methane emissions. They will also measure and monitor emissions from **coalmines** which have been closed or abandoned for less than 70 years.

National authorities will carry out **periodic inspections** to check and ensure operators' compliance with the requirements of the regulation, including the taking of follow-up remedial measures. The first routine inspection will be completed by 5 May 2026.

The period between inspections will not exceed 3 years. Where an inspection has identified a serious breach of this Regulation, the subsequent inspection shall take place within 10 months.

Prevention and mitigation measures

Operators will be required to take all appropriate mitigation measures to prevent and minimise methane emissions from their activities. By 5 May 2025 for existing sites and within 6 months from the date of start of operations for new sites, operators will submit a **leak detection and repair programme** ('LDAR programme') to the competent authorities. Under the new rules, operators will need to carry out surveys of methane leaks in different types of infrastructures at set intervals.

Under the new rules, operators will have to detect and repair methane leaks. Operators will then need to **repair or replace** all components above certain methane leak levels **immediately** after detection, and no later than five days thereafter. The set deadline for a full repair under the new rules is 30 days.

Restrictions on venting and flaring

The regulation **bans venting and flaring** methane from drainage stations by 2025 and from ventilation shafts by 2027, unless it is strictly necessary or the event of an emergency or malfunction. Venting of methane through ventilation shafts in coal mines emitting more than 3 tonnes of methane per kilotonne of coal mined, other than coking coal mines, will be prohibited from 1 January 2031, except in the case of an emergency. From 1 January 2030, the venting and flaring of closed and abandoned mines will be banned.

Requirements for oil, gas and coal imports

The regulation provides for data collection and the creation of a **methane emitters global monitoring tool** and a super emitter rapid reaction mechanism. In addition, **equivalent monitoring, reporting and verification measures should be applied by exporters to the EU by 1 January 2027**, and maximum methane intensity values by 2030. The competent authorities of each Member State will have the power to impose administrative penalties if these provisions are not respected.

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 4.8.2024.

Methane emissions reduction in the energy sector

2021/0423(COD) - 10/04/2024 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 530 votes to 63, with 28 abstentions, a legislative resolution on the proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on methane emissions reduction in the energy sector and amending Regulation (EU) 2019/942.

The position adopted by the European Parliament at first reading under the ordinary legislative procedure is as follows:

Subject matter and scope

The proposed Regulation lays down rules for the accurate measurement, **quantification, monitoring, reporting and verification of methane emissions** in the energy sector in the Union. It should apply to: (a) oil and fossil gas exploration and production, and fossil gas gathering and processing; (b) inactive wells, temporarily plugged wells and permanently plugged and abandoned wells; (c) natural gas transmission and distribution; and (d) active underground coal mines and surface coal mines, closed underground coal mines and abandoned underground coal mines.

This Regulation applies also to methane emissions occurring outside the Union, with respect to crude oil, natural gas and coal placed on the Union market.

Competent authorities

Each Member State should appoint at least one competent authority to oversee the effective compliance by operators, undertakings, mine operators and importers with the obligations laid down in this Regulation and should notify the Commission about such appointment and any changes thereto. Those competent authorities should be provided with sufficient financial and human resources and should take all the necessary measures to ensure compliance with this Regulation in accordance with the tasks specifically attributed to them. The competent authorities should establish a contact point.

Methane emissions in the oil and gas sector

By 12 months from the date of entry into force of this Regulation, operators should submit a report to the competent authorities containing the quantification of source-level methane emissions estimated using at least generic emission factors for all sources.

Operators should take all appropriate **mitigation measures** to prevent and minimise methane emissions in their operations.

Leak detection and repair

By **9 months** from the date of entry into force of this Regulation for existing sites and within **6 months** from the date of start of operations for new sites, operators should submit a leak detection and repair **programme** ('LDAR programme') to the competent authorities. In any event, operators should carry out the first type 2 leak detection and repair survey by 12 months from the date of entry into force of this Regulation for existing sites.

If the repair cannot be carried out immediately after detection, it should be attempted as soon as possible and no later than 5 days after detection and should be completed within 30 days after detection.

While it could be necessary to consider exceptional safety, administrative and technical aspects, evidence should be provided to justify any delays in repair or replacement. Repairs or replacements should use the best technologies that are commercially available and that provide long-term protection against future leakage.

Restrictions on venting and flaring

Venting or flaring should be allowed only in case of an emergency or malfunction. Venting or flaring should be allowed where unavoidable and strictly necessary. Where venting is allowed, operators should vent only where flaring is not technically feasible due to lack of flammability or inability to sustain a flame, risks endangering safety of operations or personnel or where it would have a worse environmental impact in terms of emissions.

Operators should comply with these measures without delay and, in any case, not later than 18 months from the date of entry into force of this Regulation for existing sites and not later than 12 months from the date of start of operations for new sites.

Inactive wells, temporarily plugged wells and permanently plugged and abandoned wells

By 12 months from the date of entry into force of this Regulation, Member States should set up and make publicly available an **inventory** of all closed underground coal mines and abandoned underground coal mines in their territory or under their jurisdiction.

Methane emissions in the coal sector

EU countries should continuously measure and report methane emissions from operating underground mines and from surface mines. In addition, they should set-up a **public inventory of mines closed or abandoned in the last 70 years** and measure their emissions, except for mines that have been flooded for more than 10 years.

For **active underground coal mines**, flaring with a destruction and removal efficiency by design level below 99% and venting of methane from drainage systems should be prohibited from 1 January **2025**. Venting of methane through ventilation shafts in coal mines emitting more than 5 tonnes of methane per kilotonne of coal mined, other than coking coal mines, should be prohibited from 1 January **2027**, except in the case of an emergency. Those emitting more than 3 tonnes of methane per kilotonne of coal mined, other than coking coal mines, should be prohibited from 1 January **2031**, except in the case of an emergency. Venting and flaring from equipment should be prohibited from 1 January **2030**.

Requirements for oil, gas and coal imports

New contracts concluded by EU importers for the supply of crude oil, natural gas or coal must reinforce the adoption in third countries of rules on the monitoring, reporting and verification of methane emissions which are equivalent to those laid down in this Regulation. The amended Regulation therefore lays down requirements for imports of oil, gas and coal. **From 1 January 2027**, importers should demonstrate equivalent monitoring, reporting and verification requirements at the production level.