

SOUTHERN UTE GROWTH FUND

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Tribal Air Quality Initiatives

Southern Ute Indian Tribe / State of Colorado Environmental Commission Meeting November 29, 2023

Presenter: Graham Stahnke, PE Southern Ute Department of Energy Exploration and Regulatory Manager



- Introduction
- Tribal Air Quality Initiatives
- Methane Seepage and Vent Well Project
- Methane Detection and Quantification
- Questions

DOE Mission and Goals

MISSION

The mission of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe's Department of Energy is to ensure that the members of the Southern Ute Indian Tribe receive <u>maximum benefit</u> <u>from the energy and mineral resources</u> located on their Reservation while at the same time <u>minimizing the impact</u> of extraction of the resources <u>on the natural and cultural environment</u>





Related Goal

Further support the development of <u>energy transition</u> <u>projects</u> that provide economic synergies for the Tribe's energy companies



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Voluntary Operational Initiatives

Reduce carbon intensity of oil and gas production

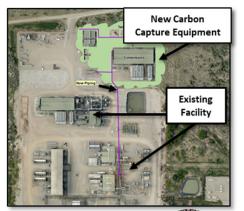
Certification of produced natural gas and midstream

operations by 3rd party verifier

 Voluntary continuous emissions monitoring at new facilities



Arkansas Loop CO₂ capture and pipeline



Academic Initiatives

- National Petroleum Council Study on GHG Emissions from the Natural Gas Supply Chain
- Collaborations with The Payne Institute and **Energy Emissions Modeling and Data Lab**

The Payne Institute for Public Policy



Energy Transition Initiatives

- Embrace new technology to support carbon
 - neutral energy development
 - Coyote Clean Power Project
 - Enhanced Geothermal
 - Hydrogen
- Electrification and grid resiliency work with LPEA



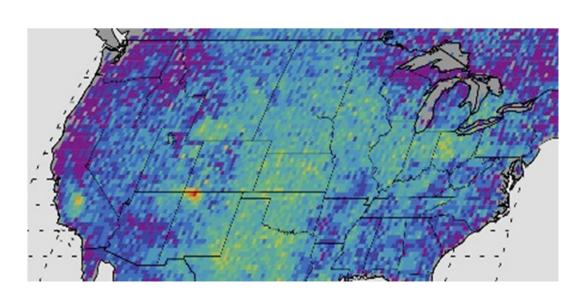


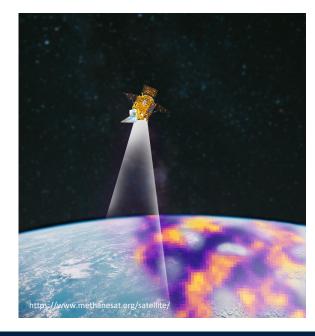
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Fruitland Outcrop, Methane Hotspot and the Reservation

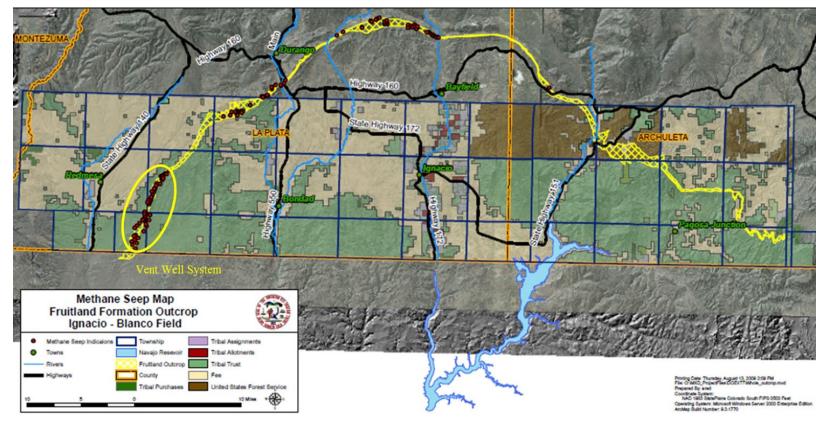
4-Corners Methane Hotspot

2014 Geophysical Research Letters and subsequent November 2020 Elementa Publication





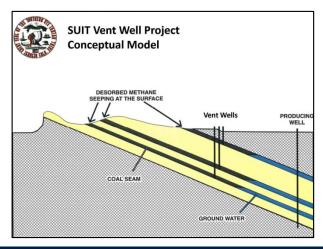
Fruitland Formation Outcrop Seeps



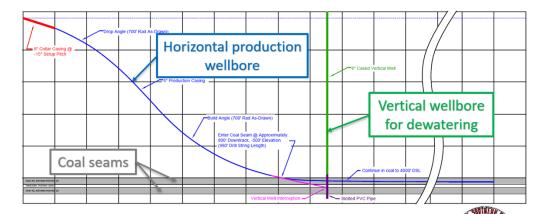


Vent Well Project

- Over a 10-year period (2008-2018) Tribe intercepted 2.5 bcf of methane through vent wells prior to the methane venting along the Fruitland Outcrop
- Successfully sold carbon credits equating to over 420,000 metric tons of CO₂



- The Enhanced Outcrop Methane Capture project aims to increase methane capture by drilling two shallow horizontal pilot wells into the Fruitland Formation
- Utilize advanced methane sensing for quantification of impacts



Enhanced Outcrop Methane Capture



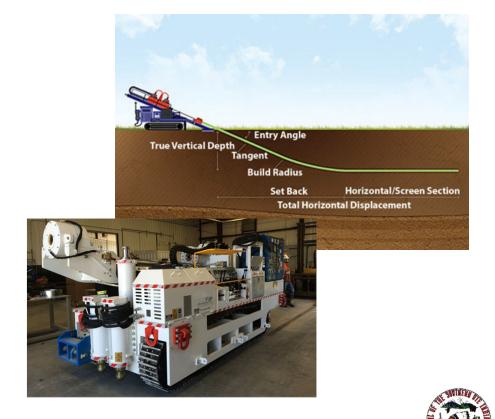
Utilize modern horizontal drilling technology and subsurface modeling to enhance interception of methane/CO₂ downdip of outcrop reducing greenhouse gas emissions



Link methane capture to potential power projects to increase value of electricity sold



Expand footprint to encompass additional portions of the Outcrop located on the Reservation



Enhanced Outcrop Methane Capture Project Team and Funding











Partners













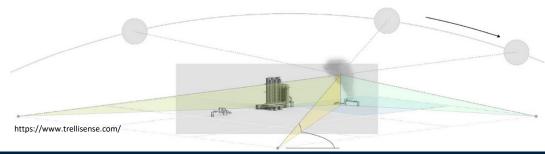


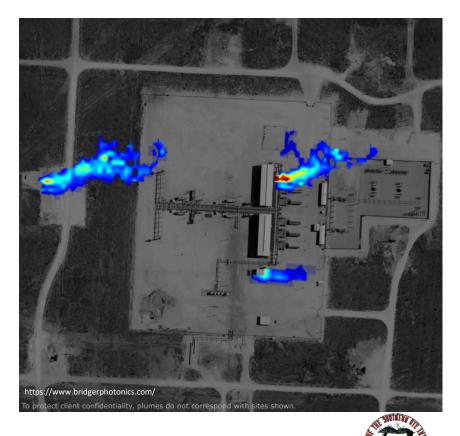


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Methane Detection and Quantification

- Ground-based Detection
- Flyover/Aerial Detection
- Satellite Detection





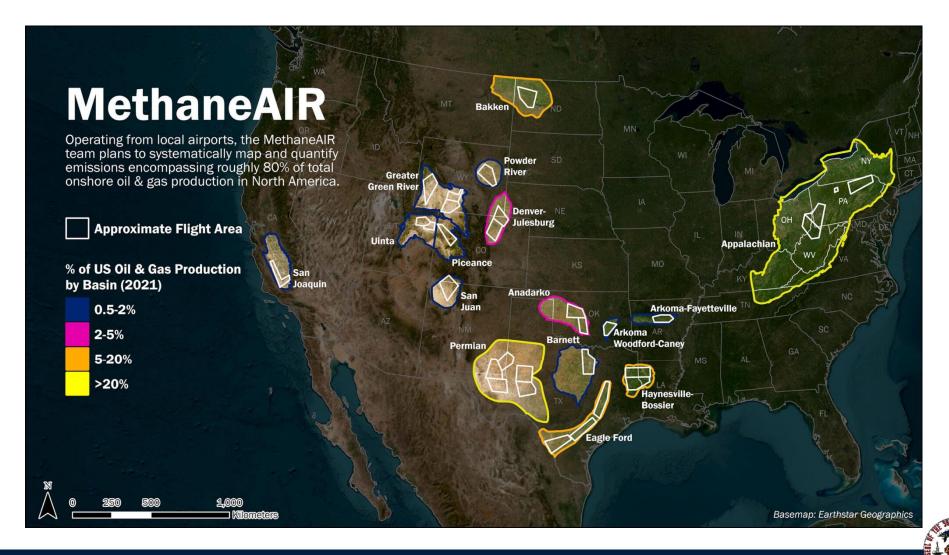
Ground-based Methane Detection

- Pedestrian Surveys
 - Completed on an annual basis since 2008
 - Working with Colorado School of Mines to analyze historic and new survey data
- Laser-based Sensors
- Metal Oxide Sensors
- Optical Gas Imaging

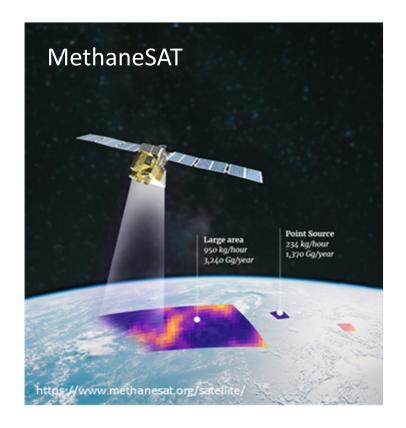


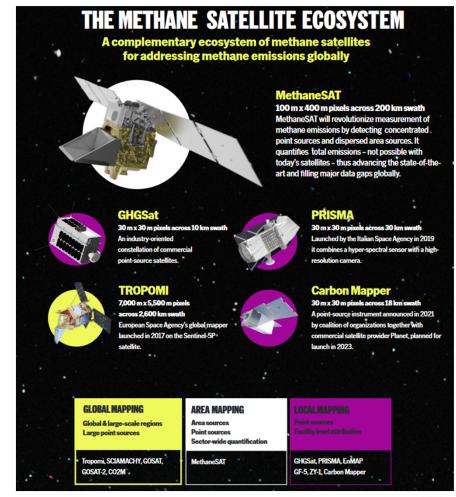
Flyover/Aerial Detection

- Completed flyover of Outcrop in September 2023 with Bridger Photonics
- Data currently undergoing analysis and quantification
 - Challenging due to local topography and meteorology



Satellite Detection







Thank You!