



Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

September 18, 2026

H.E. Ursula von der Leyen
President
European Commission

CC:

H.E. Teresa Ribera, Executive Vice-President for a Clean, Just and Competitive Transition

H.E. Dan Jørgensen, European Commissioner for Energy and Housing

H.E. Wopke Hoekstra, Climate, Net Zero and Clean Growth

Dear Commission President von der Leyen,
Dear Executive Vice-President Ribera,
Dear Commissioner Jørgensen,
Dear Commissioner Hoekstra,

We would like to thank you for your continued commitment to the EU Methane Regulation (EUMR) and reiterate our strong support for its consistent and durable implementation. We have taken note of the guidelines published on the 20th of July and appreciate the Commission's effort to achieve pragmatic implementation of the Regulation, helping those Member States that are in the process of setting up their penalty regimes and encouraging action by the many that have yet to make significant progress in this respect.

Reducing methane emissions in the global oil and gas sector strengthens Europe's security of supply and affordability of delivered products. The International Energy Agency finds that the global oil and gas sector is responsible for methane emissions that correspond to the total annual gas exports from the United States, and that cutting methane emissions and controlling flaring from the sector could free up to 200 billion cubic metres (bcm) of gas.

We reemphasize that the obligations of all parties to adhere to the EUMR are still in place, and that Member States should continue to actively monitor and ensure compliance, even when penalties do not yet apply. Given the progress made with the guidance, we stress that it is critical that the EU resist calls to reopen the legislation and instead provide certainty by expeditiously implementing the EUMR.

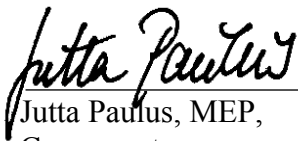
New analysis from Rystad Energy also shows that there is no credible evidence that the EU Methane Regulation is contributing to current oil and gas price increases or supply pressures affecting Europe. Concerns on the EUMR's impact on energy security often center around false claims that the EUMR would ban imports of non-compliant gas. In fact, gas availability would be larger by the proper application of the EUMR, because it is an important tool against the continuing waste of gas.

Large oil and gas operators, predominantly in the United States, have already invested tens of millions of dollars in deploying advanced methane mitigation and measurement technologies. These frontrunners rely on clear, consistent rules and predictable penalties for all global suppliers, which will maximize the energy security, reliability, and affordability benefits of addressing methane emissions. The European Union should not weaken its own energy tools and should stay a reliable and rational partner for suppliers and businesses.

Moving forward, it is imperative that Member States do not use the new guidelines to undermine the objectives of the EUMR or impair regulatory certainty. Flexibilities, if granted, should remain temporary and targeted and should not discourage frontrunners by providing excess flexibility to latecomers. Compliance solutions for methane measurement should also maintain high integrity and clear guardrails to ensure the accuracy and traceability of emissions. We also urge the European Commission to work actively with all involved parties to ensure Member States set robust, coherent, and timely penalties and ensure consistent implementation of the EUMR.

Mitigation of methane emissions from oil and gas operations is one of the fastest and most effective ways to address the climate crisis, will enhance global energy security, and will reduce costs across the board. We are committed to working together and with the Trump Administration, the European Union, industry, civil society, and relevant experts to ensure successful implementation of the EUMR.

Sincerely,



Jutta Paulus, MEP,
Co-rapporteur
EU Methane Regulation



Sheldon Whitehouse
United States Senator
Ranking Member
Committee on Environment
and Public Works



Scott H. Peters
Member of Congress

Dr. Günther Sidl, MEP,
Shadow rapporteur EU
Methane Regulation

Martin Hojsik, MEP,
Shadow rapporteur
EU Methane Regulation

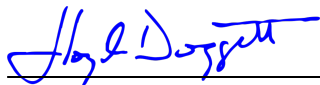
Sigrid Friis, MEP

Michael Bloss, MEP

Isabella Lövin, MEP

Anna Cavazzini, MEP

Lisa Badum, MdB



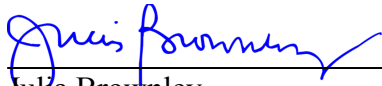
Lloyd Doggett
Member of Congress



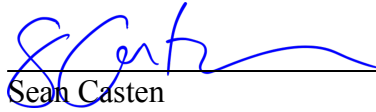
Kathy Castor
Member of Congress



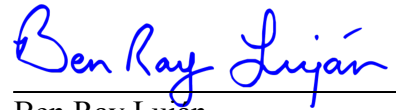
Jared Huffman
Member of Congress



Julia Brownley
Member of Congress



Sean Casten
Member of Congress



Ben Ray Lujan
United States Senator



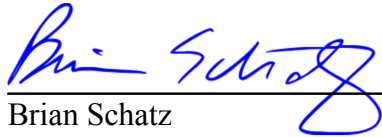
Diana DeGette
Member of Congress



Pramila Jayapal
Member of Congress



Nanette Diaz Barragán
Member of Congress



Brian Schatz
United States Senator



Donald S. Beyer Jr.
Member of Congress