



## Natural Gas STAR Methane Challenge Program Implementation Plan

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**Partner Name**

**Current as of (date)**

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### Partner Implementation Manager

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone/Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

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# Natural Gas STAR Methane Challenge Program Implementation Plan

## Partner Methane Challenge Commitments<sup>1</sup>

### BMP Commitment Option

Source		Start Date	Achievement Year
<b>Onshore Production</b>			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pneumatic Controllers		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fixed Roof, Atmospheric Pressure Hydrocarbon Liquid Storage Tanks		
<b>Gathering and Boosting</b>			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pneumatic Controllers		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fixed Roof, Atmospheric Pressure Hydrocarbon Liquid Storage Tanks		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Reciprocating Compressors - Rod Packing Vent		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Centrifugal Compressors - Venting		
<b>Natural Gas (NG) Processing</b>			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Reciprocating Compressors - Rod Packing Vent		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Centrifugal Compressors - Venting		
<b>NG Transmission &amp; Underground Storage</b>			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Reciprocating Compressors - Rod Packing Vent		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Centrifugal Compressors - Venting		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Transmission Pipeline Blowdowns between Compressor Stations		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pneumatic Controllers		
<b>NG Distribution</b>			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mains – Cast Iron and Unprotected Steel ( <i>Commitment Rate:</i> )		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Services – Cast Iron and Unprotected Steel		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Distribution Pipeline Blowdowns ( <i>Commitment Rate:</i> )		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Excavation Damages		

## Partner Methane Challenge Commitments

### ONE Future Emissions Intensity Commitment Option

Segment:		Intensity Target:		Target Year:	
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<sup>1</sup> Partners may delete unused rows within the table, and may duplicate rows and add relevant details as needed (e.g., a corporate parent partner that has different commitments for each LDC can duplicate relevant rows to list the commitments for each LDC).



## Northern Indiana Public Service Company Natural Gas STAR Methane Challenge Implementation Plan

Updated August 2018

### **I. Northern Indiana Public Service Company Overview**

Headquartered in Merrillville, Indiana, Northern Indiana Public Service Co. (NIPSCO) is Indiana's largest natural gas distribution company and the second largest electric distribution company, serving approximately 830,000 natural gas and 470,000 electric customers across 32 counties. NIPSCO is part of NiSource's (NYSE: NI) seven regulated utility companies. NiSource is one of the largest fully-regulated utility companies in the United States, serving approximately 3.5 million natural gas customers and 500,000 electric customers through its local Columbia Gas and NIPSCO brands. NiSource's commitment of \$30 billion in infrastructure replacement programs are contributing to a significant reduction in methane emissions. We are proud to be a Founding Partner, and through the best management practices outlined in the Methane Challenge, we will continue to reduce emissions while improving safety and service to our customers and communities.

### **II. Methane Challenge Commitments and Projected Timeline for Meeting Commitments (as specified in the Partnership Agreement)**

- a. Best Management Practice (BMP): Excavation Damages
- b. Commitment: NIPSCO agrees to collect and report each of the following data elements by the company's 2021 BMP achievement year:
  - i. Total number of excavation damages
  - ii. Total number of excavation damages per thousand locate calls
  - iii. Total number of excavation damages by pipe material (steel, cast iron, copper, plastic, etc.) and part of system involved (main, service, inside meter/regulator set, etc.)

- iv. Total number of excavation damages that resulted in a release of natural gas
- v. Total number of excavation damages which resulted in the pipeline being shut down
- vi. Total number of excavation damages on pipelines or facilities with supervisory control and data acquisition-based systems in place
- vii. Total number of excavation damages where the operator was given prior notification of excavation activity
- viii. Total number of excavation damages by type that caused excavation damage incidents<sup>1</sup>
- ix. Total number of excavation damages by apparent root cause<sup>2</sup>

A primary purpose of collecting this information is to help the company further enhance programs that reduce excavation damages. Collecting this data may also help the company meet EPA's excavation damage mitigation options described below:

- i. Conduct incident analyses (e.g. by identifying whether excavation, locating, or One-Call practices were not sufficient) to inform process improvements and reduce excavation damages;
- ii. Undertake targeted programs to reduce excavation damages and/or shorten time to shut-in when damages do occur, including patrolling systems when construction activity is higher, excavator education programs (811, call before you dig), identifying and implementing steps to minimize repeat offenders, and stand-by efforts.

Finally, NIPSCO agrees to report the following data elements by the 2021 BMP achievement year:

- i. Actions taken to minimize excavation damages/reduce methane emissions from excavation damages
  - ii. Company-specific goal for reducing excavation damages and/or methane emissions from excavation damages (when available)
  - iii. Progress in meeting company-specific goal (when available)
- c. Commitment Start Date: April 1, 2016
  - d. Commitment Achievement Year: 2021

#### **IV. Milestones and Associated Timeframes**

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<sup>1</sup> Contractor, Railroad, County, State, Developer, Utility, Farmer, Municipality, Occupant, Unknown/Other, Data not collected

<sup>2</sup> One-Call Notification Practices, Locating Practices, or Excavation Practices not Sufficient; One-Call Notification Center Error, Abandoned Facility, Deteriorated Facility, Previous Damage, Data not Collected, Other Outside Force Damage, Pipe, Weld or Joint Failure, Equipment Failure, Incorrect Operation, Other/Miscellaneous

On an annual basis, NIPSCO will conduct a status review of its commitment to collect and report the available data elements listed above. NIPSCO's goal is to collect and report all the data elements listed above by the 2021 BMP achievement year.

**V. Plans for Future Expansion of Methane Challenge Commitments**

NIPSCO will periodically assess opportunities to further its Methane Challenge commitments.

**VI. Other relevant information to provide context for the Partner's participation (e.g., background on progress the Partner company has already made on methane mitigation, including past actions and results on reducing emissions from target sources)**

For more than 20 years, NiSource has been a proud member of the EPA's Natural Gas STAR Program. Over the course of the company's involvement in the program, our actions have significantly reduced carbon dioxide equivalent (CO<sub>2</sub>e) emissions. Since 2005, NiSource has reduced greenhouse gas emissions from our natural gas distribution systems by 23 percent. Through our Methane Challenge program commitments, NiSource will continue to replace the cast iron and bare steel pipelines remaining in our natural gas system. As part of these planned investments, we expect to further reduce methane emissions by 145,000 metric tons CO<sub>2</sub>e, a reduction of 10 percent compared to 2015.

In addition to helping reduce emissions, our well-established infrastructure modernization and excavation damage programs are producing other meaningful benefits and adding value for our customers. For example, we have reduced gas leaks on our mains by 9% and by 14% on our service lines over the past five years, increasing the safety and reliability of our system. NiSource's pipeline modernization and excavation damage efforts are good for our customers, communities and the environment.