

Howard, Jeff (DEEP)

From: Gary Bent <gdbent@earthlink.net>
Sent: Monday, August 31, 2015 9:44 PM
To: DEEP ClimateChange
Subject: comment 3 on leadership group meeting on August 28
Attachments: graph of natural gas emissions ct.docx

DEEP should issue strict regulations on the leakage and venting of methane from natural gas transmission and distribution. EPA has recently proposed regulations for the regulation of methane emissions in natural gas production, transmission, and distribution, but Connecticut does not have to wait for EPA to finalize their regulations. Methane is a greenhouse gas that is 86 times more potent in trapping heat than carbon dioxide. A recent paper by K. McKain et al., "Methane emissions from natural gas infrastructure and use in the urban area of Boston, Massachusetts," Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences **112**, 1941 (2015) measured methane emissions around Boston; in the supplemental information to their paper, the authors estimated the methane emissions in Connecticut from natural gas transmission and distribution. I am attaching their graph of the emissions. The horizontal scale is in units of grams per square meter per year of methane emissions. When the total emissions are added up, the methane leakages from natural gas in Connecticut are approximately equivalent to one million tons of carbon dioxide being emitted each year. With the planned expansion of natural gas transmission lines and distribution lines in Connecticut, the leakages and venting of natural gas will increase unless DEEP strictly regulates these emissions.

Sincerely,
Gary Bent