

Climate change is upon us.

The decision to further tackle methane loss at SWM sites in California addresses an ongoing climate change challenge. In fact, this challenge exists throughout the United States.

A recent report created by your organization highlighted the single biggest cause of methane loss, GCCS downtime. Improvement of the monitoring of GCCS systems and addressing outages in a timely fashion would seem to be a great first step. Other areas of major concern are damaged flaring systems, insufficient land fill coverage allowing methane leakage, and the size and improper management of the open face of the facility also need all to be addressed.

The development of productive and cost-effective solutions is needed. The use of non-personnel tools such as drones, walking robots, and sensors provides a resource that helps to protect staff from entering areas where incidents can occur and can be utilized 24/7.

State of California staff, City of Bakersfield staff and RMI employees met in early 2025 to evaluate and attempt to validate the effectiveness of addressing these areas needing attention. Initial feedback provided in a joint report highlighted the benefits of this approach to monitoring.

It is hoped that the State of California will share its experiences with other states to further promote addressing the methane challenge.

Thank you for your passionate efforts to reduce the creation and growth of methane and provide a better planet.

One way for the public to help is to keep organic waste out of municipal waste sites. Our family had considered this need for a while, and its importance has encouraged us to participate in a program provided by happyearthcompost.

Regards

Gael Ronnau