# CH4

# GOING GREEN TURNS GOLD FOR NGC

ESTIMATED READ TIME: 4 MINUTES

# AGENOA KEY TAKEAWAYS

Mitigation of methane — a powerful greenhouse gas — is critical to the climate fight. NGC has set clear targets for reducing methane from its operations by 2025, which has led to its achievement of the Gold Standard status of reporting under the global Oil and Gas Methane Partnership 2.0. NGC's strategy will focus heavily on leak detection and repair through a combination of process and technology improvements.

ddressing the issue of climate change is one of the defining challenges of this decade. It is of particular consequence to the Caribbean region as Small Island Developing States (SIDS) are demonstrably vulnerable to the impacts of rising global temperatures and extreme weather events. In late 2022, for example, parts of Trinidad and Tobago suffered calamitous flooding after an excessively wet November dumped nearly twice the usual amount of rainfall on the islands.

With the prognosis that such events could become more frequent and severe as global warming intensifies, it is imperative that action be taken to curb the greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions which are fuelling the phenomenon. Among the most potent of these GHGs is methane, which is the primary component of natural gas, and has 80 times the warming potential of carbon dioxide on a 20-year timescale.

NGC has made pioneering investments to track and reduce methane emissions from its operations. It also made a voluntary commitment to report on its progress after joining the global Oil and Gas Methane Partnership 2.0 (OGMP 2.0) in 2021. The company's resolve was made clear in its first report to the OGMP — submitted in 2022 wherein it outlined targets to reduce methane emissions by 2025. This led NGC has made pioneering investments to track and reduce methane emissions from its operations. It also made a voluntary commitment to report on its progress after joining the global Oil and Gas Methane Partnership 2.0 (OGMP 2.0) in 2021.

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## THE OGMP GOLD STANDARD

The OGMP 2.0 is a multi-stakeholder partnership to improve the accuracy and transparency of methane emissions reporting, which is key to methane mitigation in the oil and gas sector. It is the only comprehensive measurement-based reporting framework covering all material sources of methane emissions from both operated and non-operated assets across all segments of the value chain.

Under the OGMP 2.0 framework, there are different tiers of reporting to which member companies can aspire, based on declared targets and the rigour of measurement tools and methodologies. To reach Gold Standard status of reporting, companies need to announce 2025 absolute reduction or near-zero intensity targets. Target setting is a complex exercise requiring a good understanding by companies of their emissions profile.

NGC's achievement of Gold Standard status under the OGMP 2.0 was revealed in the second edition of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) International Methane Emissions Observatory (IMEO) publication, *An Eye on Methane*. The achievement, which came just one year after NGC joined the organisation, represents an international acknowledgement of the work the company has committed to do over the coming years to address its carbon impact.

## NGC'S TARGETS

As outlined in its inaugural submission to the OGMP, NGC's methane emissions from natural gas sources — comprising venting, fugitives, flaring, stationary combustion and mobile combustion — totaled 21.91 thousand tonnes of  $CO_2e$  in 2021.

# NGC GHG REDUCTION TARGETS

	Consolidation Basis (Operational Control, Equity) Consolidation	Year in which the Target was Set	Reference/ Base Year	Total Emissions in Scope of the Target (Metric Tonnes CH <sub>2</sub> )	Target Year (e.g. 2025) T	Targeted Reduction from Reference or Base Year %	Absolute Emissions in Target Year (kg)
Target 1	Operational-Venting	1	2021	681.6	2025	75%	170.4
Target 2	Operational-Fugitive	1	2021	68.3	2025	50%	34.2

Administrative

Using 2021 as a baseline year, NGC is now targeting:

- An overall reduction of **75%** in venting methane emissions and **50%** in fugitive methane by 2025
- A 50% reduction in overall GHG emissions by 2025

NGC's methane reduction campaign already looks at flaring versus venting and includes infrared visualisation and satellite imaging of its pipelines and gas handling infrastructure to detect fugitive emissions. To build on that campaign and achieve its targets by 2025, it plans to focus heavily on reinforcing its Leak Detection and Repair (LDAR) programme through the following:



#### Leadership and

**Governance** – ensuring alignment of the LDAR programme with corporate strategy and culture; managing processes and resources; establishing accountabilities for LDAR activities



Management Systems building a collaborative culture among supporting functions such as HSSE, Procurement, Engineering, Human Resources and Information Management



Strategic Partnerships and Agreements engaging and aligning stakeholders from across The NGC Group and wider industry



**Reporting** — using best practices and standards in data collection; strengthening reporting capacity; establishing clear timelines for reporting

#### Technology and

**Measurement** — using top-down and bottom-up equipment for emissions data capture; integrating new tools and equipment to support LDAR where possible



#### Engineering and Design

 using engineering and design considerations to incorporate more efficient equipment and systems



**Technical Standards and Best Practice** — using learnings and evaluation of industry best practices to improve LDAR



#### Auditing and Continuous Improvement — assuring LDAR processes and systems through internal and external audits and taking corrective actions where necessary

## NGC'S COMMITMENT

Bringing emissions in check requires a collective and concerted effort, and a clear roadmap for action. Having elaborated its own methane goals, NGC will be working purposefully towards their realisation by 2025. Along the way, the company intends to communicate and educate on the need to address methane emissions to encourage greater industry participation and increase the chances of success in this high-stakes fight.