

Efforts to curb methane emissions by Japanese gas industry

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The Japan Gas Association

Since the agreement on the Paris Agreement in 2015, public interest in global warming has been increasing day by day around the world, and the movement toward decarbonization has been in earnest. Japanese government declared in October 2020 that Japan would achieve a carbon-neutral and decarbonized society by 2050. Japanese Cabinet is accelerating the movement toward decarbonization and decided the new Strategic Energy Plan and Global Warming Countermeasures Plan in October 2021, as strategies and initiatives , to achieve this goal.

Methane, one of the greenhouse gases, has a higher greenhouse effect than carbon dioxide, and curbing methane emissions has become an important issue for the realization of a decarbonized society. U.S. President Biden has announced the "Global Methane Pledge (GMP)" at the Major Economies Forum held on September 17, 2021, which aims to reduce methane emissions globally. Japanese government also announced its participation in the GMP at the Japan-U.S.-Australia-India summit held on September 24. Thus, the momentum to reduce methane emissions has been growing throughout the world,

Japanese gas industry, which delivers natural gas, the main ingredient of which is methane, has been working to reduce methane emissions by striving for appropriate management and operation from the receipt of LNG (liquefied natural gas) imported from overseas, to vaporization at plants, to the supply of gas to customers through pipelines. We have maintained an extremely low level of methane emissions compared to other sources to date. The gas industry will continue its efforts through this strict and appropriate management.

At the same time, by thoroughly shifting to natural gas and making advanced use of natural gas, we will contribute to the reduction of greenhouse gases during the transition period. The gas industry will contribute and realize decarbonized society in 2050 through the development of decarbonization technology: carbon neutral synthetic methane production and supply.