

The Methane Detectors Challenge

State of the Challenge

At oil and gas sites across the country, **leaks can develop at any moment**. When they do, they leak methane – the main component of natural gas and a powerful climate pollutant – into the air **along with other harmful chemicals**. Leaks can go on for weeks or **even months** before they're fixed.

EDF, seven oil and gas companies, and other partners launched the Methane Detectors Challenge to develop low-cost continuous detection systems that send alerts whenever methane is leaking. **Two promising technologies are moving towards pilot deployments in the summer of 2016**. Learn more at edf.org/methanedetectors.



Solutions needed

- Continuous monitoring
- Leak alerts
- Low-cost: hardware target in pilot \$5,000 / at scale \$1,000
- Suitable for remote, unmanned locations
- Reduced product waste
- Improved local air quality
- Reduced greenhouse gases



MDC System Specifications

- Detect 1 ppm change / 1 scfm leak from over 80 feet away
- All weather / rugged
- Solar powered
- Communicate to SCADA or wirelessly
- Automatic alerts and data analysis
- Distinguish on-site from off-site methane

**Summer
2013**
Convene

**Spring
2014**
Solicit
proposals

**Fall
2014**
Lab testing

**Summer
2015**
Outdoor testing

**Summer
2016**
Pilot
deployments