

10 May 2024

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Publication date: 31 March 2017

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ISSN: 0964-8496

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The gas industry is used to promoting itself as the cleanest of hydrocarbons. But its green credentials are increasingly undermined by the risk of methane leakage – a greenhouse gas that is far more potent than CO₂. Indeed, it is claimed that emissions from gas production and transport – and particularly fracking – practically cancel out the CO₂ emission advantage of gas over coal. Gas Matters discussed these challenges with Mark Brownstein, vice president in the Climate and Energy Program at global NGO the Environmental Defense Fund (EDF). Brownstein leads EDF's work on the oil and gas industry with particular focus on methane emissions and the risks to public health and environment associated with unconventional E&P. Prior to joining EDF, Mark held a variety of business strategy and environmental management positions within Public Service Enterprise Group (PSEG), one of the largest electric and gas utility holding companies in the US.



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