## Overview of Air Emissions from Unconventional Oil and Gas Operations

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HEI Exposure Workshop

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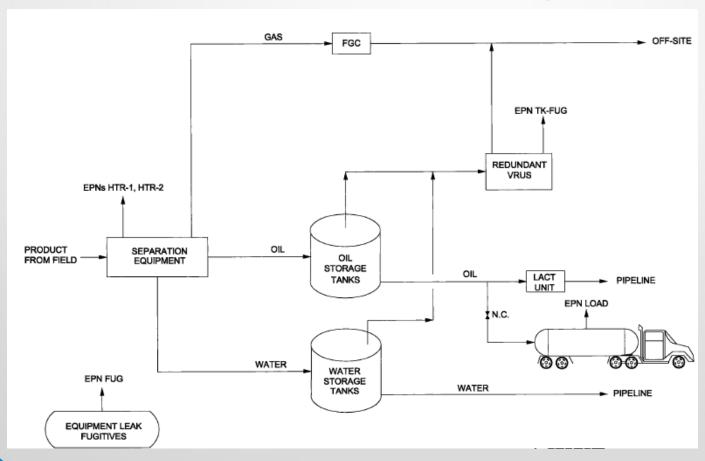
#### **Outline of Presentation**

- Overview of major equipment onsite and regulatory developments
- Intro to specific sources and control technologies
  - Guided by regional ozone planning inventories
  - NOx and VOC emissions as surrogates for combustion and non-combustion sources
- Perspective on how methane studies could inform HEI Research

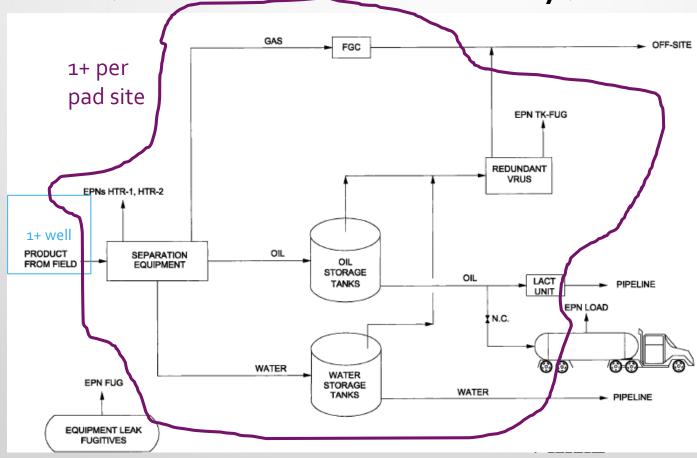


# Overview of Site Operations and Regulatory Basics

# Simple Process Flow Diagram (Central Tank Battery)



Simple Process Flow Diagram (Central Tank Battery)



### US EPA Regulations for Upstream

- Applicable to constructed, modified, or reconstructed facilities after compliance dates
- Controls and operational practices for volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions

#### NSPS 0000 (2012)

HF Gas Wells

Pneumatic Controllers

Storage Tanks

Compressors

#### NSPS 0000a (2016)

**HF Oil Wells** 

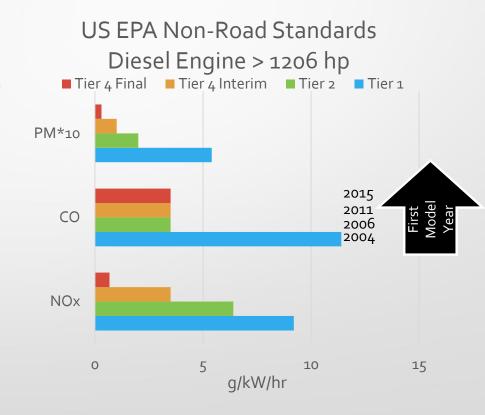
Equipment Leaks/Fugitives

Pneumatic Pumps

• Chart above is a simple overview. There are a myriad of complex requirements for compliance that would go beyond an overview.

## US EPA Engine Emission Regulations

- Performance requirements (Tiers) on new engines for a model year
- Retirement of older engines over time and replacement with lower emitting models
- May be local requirements for additional controls or which engines can be permitted



### Other Programs



State Requirements Operator Voluntary Programs

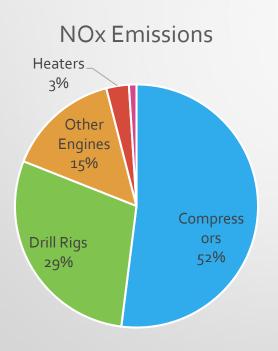
- The Environmental Partnership (2017)
  - Pneumatic Controller
  - Manual Liquid Unloading
  - Leak Detection and Repair
- Center for Responsible Shale Development (2013)
  - Surface and Groundwater Performance Standards
  - Air and Climate Performance Standards
    - Flaring Limits
    - Green Completions
    - Engine Emissions
    - Storage Tank Controls

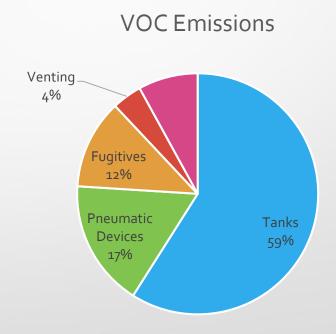
# Sources of Air Emissions and Control Technologies

# Why Draw on Emission Inventories for Ozone Planning?

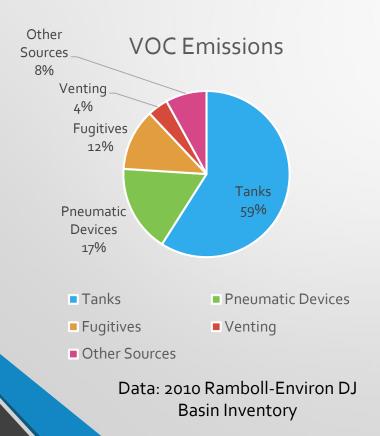
- Cover both combustion (~NOx) and non-combustion (~VOC) sources
- Publicly available from regulatory agencies
- Introduction to sources
- Limitations:
  - Level of granularity for a dispersed area source
  - Average operating conditions in a basin

## Example: 2010 Ramboll Environ Inventory for the Denver Julesburg (DJ) Basin



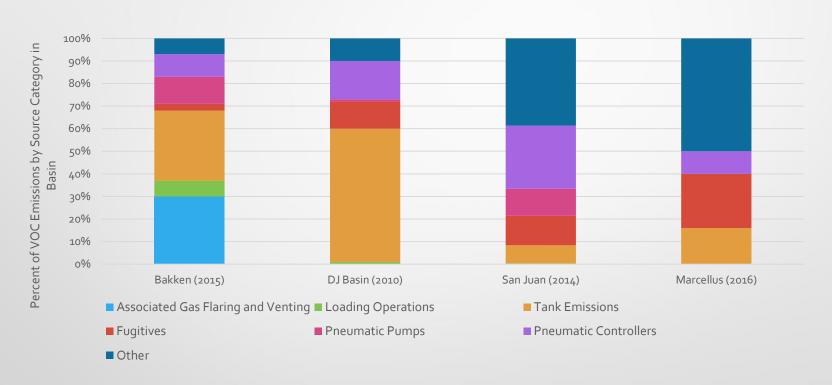


## What efforts is industry taking to control VOC emissions?



- Tank Emissions:
  - Vapor Recovery Systems
  - Flaring
- Venting
  - Reduced emission completions
- Pneumatic Controllers
  - High bleed changeouts
- Leak detection and repair programs

#### Basin-to-Basin Variation in VOC Emission Sources

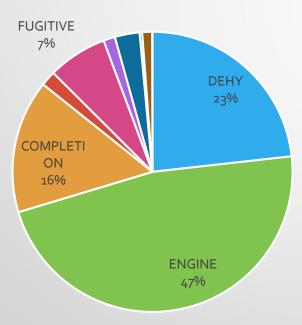


- Bakken, DJ Basin, and San Juan Ramboll Environ Inventories
- Marcellus PA DEP reported data

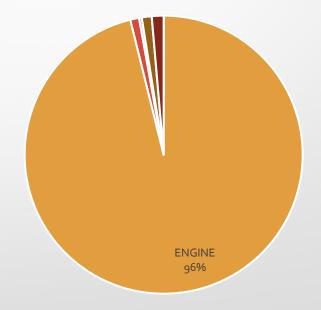
## Hazardous Air Pollutant (HAP) Emission Inventories

- Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PA DEP) requires annual reporting of HAP emissions from unconventional oil and gas operations
- Barnett Shale Special Emission Inventory by TCEQ
- Individual site estimates are included in many state permits

#### PA DEP Inventory in 2016



Reported Benzene Emissions

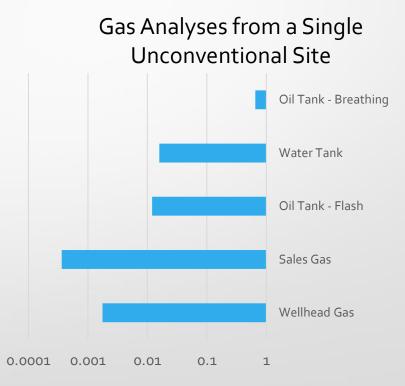


Reported Formaldehyde Emissions

Methane Emission Studies

## Methane as a Surrogate for Other Emissions from Unconventional Operations

- Confounding sources possible with ambient methane measurements
- Ratios to other chemical species is highly variable
- Simple scaling of off-site methane concentration measurements is not likely to be meaningful.
- Methane is not necessarily a good proxy for HAPs and other air emissions.



Benzene to Methane Ratio in Process Stream at One Site

## Applicable Lessons Learned from Methane Emission Research

- Early planning on scaling/contextualizing results
- Recent studies show a "fat tail" (small number of sources responsible for a large portion of emissions) for methane emissions.
- Multiple measurement methods and inter-comparison studies are vital.
- Spatial and temporal variations in emissions and activities are key.
- Operational insights are key for understanding results.

Thank You