RANGE RESOURCES[®] Marcellus Shale Production Facility Emissions: Leak Detection Field Study

NOVEMBER 9, 2017

- How many leaks? Implementation of field-wide Leak Detection and Repair (LDAR) program generated ~68% reduction in fugitive leaks
- Where are leaks occurring? Atmospheric stock tanks are the main contributor of emissions within a production facility
- Proper tank vent valves and set point selection are critical for reducing emissions & leak points

- Continued good
 environmental stewardship
- New regulations
- Public scrutiny
- Product loss





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TYPICAL SITE LAYOUT



Any venting of gas or vapors to atmosphere when:

- 1. Outside design parameters or equipment set points
- 2. And visible with an optical gas imaging camera

Example: Leaking Weighted Thief Hatch (older industry standard)

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Example: Leaking Stainless Fitting (solenoid)



Key takeaways:

- Total leaks over 1-year period
- 77% of leaks are tank related (i.e. PRVs, thief hatches)
- 13% from Gas Production Units (GPU)

WHERE ARE LEAKS OCCURRING?





REDUCTION IN OPTICAL GAS IMAGING LEAKS



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NON-TANK LEAKS – MAIN CONTRIBUTORS



Secondary pneumatic ESD at GPU w/ Relay

Relay – degradation of seal, which leads to leaking - elastomer upgrade

Pneumatic ESD – either packing or actuator diaphragm – elastomer upgrade/OGI testing prior to installation



PREVIOUS TANK VENTING DESIGN



PREVIOUS TANK VENTING DESIGN





ENHANCED TANK VENTING DESIGN



ENHANCED TANK VENTING DESIGN



Tank Vacuum ATM

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PILOT OPERATED VALVES



Seat load <u>increases</u> with increasing tank pressure and is at maximum just below set point. Weight Operated Valve



Seat load <u>decreases</u> with increasing tank pressure and is at minimum just below set point.



THIEF HATCH REPLACEMENT EXAMPLE

Challenges:

- 1. "Bubble-tight" seal required
- 2. Maintain flow capacity
- 3. Provide pressure/vacuum relief and tank access



Designed for Range

- Leaks will develop over time (even on the *best* valve technology)
- However Any leaks on <u>new</u> tank valves can be corrected by cleaning and/or replacing diaphragms
- Parts are readily available to correct leaks
- Future work needed on diaphragm elastomer longevity





Weighted hatch – for older tanks

ATTENTION TO DETAIL



- Possible to significantly reduce fugitive leaks over a relatively short period of time for upstream O&G
- Focus on atmospheric stock tank valve design is essential – almost 80% of fugitive leaks are at the tank battery
- Leaks from other sources are minor and easily corrected (only 1 new leak per ~25 wells per quarter)

QUESTIONS?

NON-TANK LEAKS – WHY THE INCREASE?

- Two quarters without inspections/leak corrected prior to Q2 2017 – More leaks started during that timeframe
- Q2 2016 and Q2 2017 leak distributions are very similar
- Data shows 30-40 new non-tanks leaks per quarter



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COST OF LEAK REDUCTION



Tank Valve Upgrades

2015 → 2018 = \$3.5MM 2015 → 2018 = \$3.5MM + maintenance/labor ~\$4.7MM

'Rippling' effect caused by mechanical deformation – often installed on vacuum pallets

Test concluded = > 7 months without leak

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"Optical gas imaging equipment is capable of imaging a gas that is half methane, half propane at a concentration of 10,000 ppm at a flowrate of ≤60g/hr from a quarter inch diameter orifice"