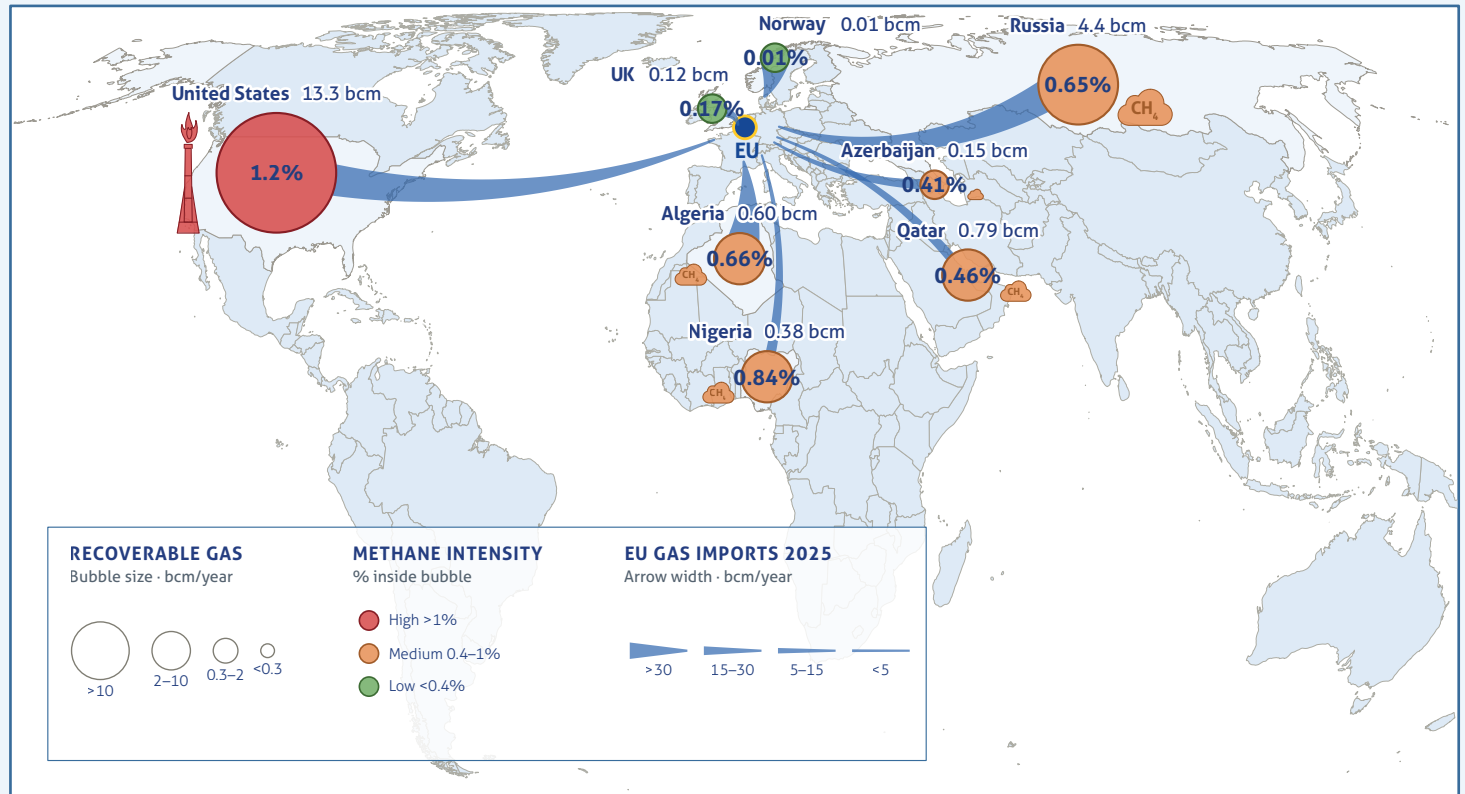




Recovering gas through methane mitigation can strengthen EU energy security

Large volumes of wasted gas can be recovered from the EU's main gas suppliers by cutting methane emissions.

RECOVERABLE GAS AND METHANE INTENSITY BY SUPPLIER



1 Methane mitigation can unlock significant gas volumes

20 bcm

of gas could be recovered from fossil gas operations from EU main suppliers.



That's **roughly twice the EU's LNG imports from Qatar in 2025.**

43 bcm

could be recovered when extending mitigation to oil operations.

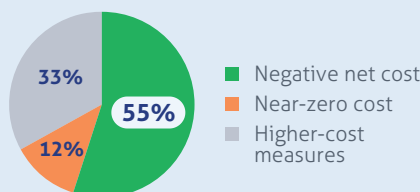


That's more than half of the US LNG imported by the EU in 2025.

2 Much of this potential can be achieved at little or no cost

29% of the potential methane reductions among the EU's top eight suppliers can be achieved at negative net cost.

55% of potential methane reductions across all fossil gas suppliers can be achieved at negative net cost as the recovered methane can be sold or reinjected into gas supply chains.



3 The biggest methane mitigation opportunities are concentrated among high-emitting suppliers

Potential methane reductions would come from US gas operations.



7.6 Mt

that corresponds to

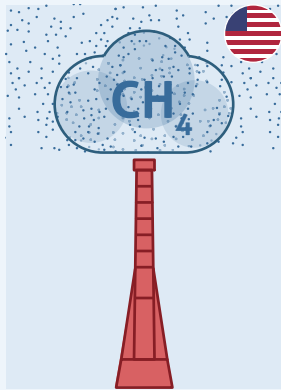
~73% of methane emissions from US gas operators in 2025.



Lower-emitting producers such as Norway and the UK have more limited additional reduction potential due to already stronger methane management practices.

■ **Cutting methane emissions is one of the fastest and most cost-effective ways to recover wasted gas and strengthen EU energy security**

Rising reliance on US LNG creates a **methane risk** for the EU



58%

of EU LNG imports came from the United States in 2025

10.3 Mt

of CH₄ released annually by US gas operations - around one third of global methane emissions from the gas sector

1.2%

estimated methane intensity of US LNG. The OGCI benchmark target is 0.2%



! Greater reliance on a high-intensity supplier risks substituting one strategic dependency with another, while increasing emissions embedded in the EU's energy mix

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

Four priorities for the EU and Member States



01

Prioritise implementation and enforcement of the EU Methane Regulation (EUMR)

The EU and Member States should implement the EUMR fully and on time, maximising its potential to reduce methane emissions and recover wasted gas, without delaying the import or penalty framework.



02

Use the EUMR as a tool for international methane governance and supplier engagement

Because around 90% of EU fossil gas is imported, methane action must extend beyond EU borders. The EUMR can drive engagement with major, methane-intensive suppliers to strengthen methane management across global gas supply chains.



03

Recognise methane abatement as an energy security measure

Methane abatement can strengthen energy security by recovering gas that is currently wasted, with around 20 bcm potentially recoverable from major EU suppliers.



04

Integrate the EUMR into a comprehensive fossil gas exit strategy

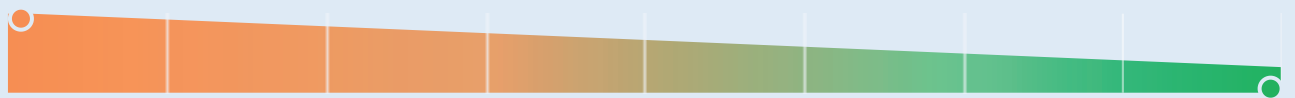
The EUMR should be embedded in a broader strategy to reduce the EU's structural dependence on imported fossil gas. This means combining methane rules with energy efficiency, renewables, electrification and demand reduction, including a gradual phase-out of LNG imports, particularly US LNG by 2032.

2025

58% of EU LNG imports came from the United States

2032

Gradual phase-out of US LNG imports



US LNG IMPORTS INTO THE EU

Illustrative phase-out path

SOURCES & FURTHER READING

Methane mitigation for EU energy security:
an analysis of supplier risks and abatement potential
Climate Action Network (CAN) Europe | September 2026



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