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EconEnergy16: Methane leaks underscore environmental debate on gas

Natural gas has the potential to cut greenhouse gas emissions worldwide, but unintended methane seepage across the oil and gas value chain poses questions over its true viability as a transition fuel, Environmental Defense Fund VP Mark Brownstein said at the Economist Energy Summit in London on Thursday.

New data suggests that US methane emissions from upstream, midstream and downstream operations is higher than previous government estimates, but a significant amount of methane could be prevented from escaping by “finding and fixing”, he said.

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