



# **UNECE Activities in Promoting Coal Mine Methane (CMM)**

**18<sup>th</sup> Session**

**UNECE Committee on Sustainable Energy**

**18-20 November 2009**

# What is Coal Mine Methane (CMM)?

CMM is the methane released from coal seams during mining. Once emitted to the atmosphere, it becomes a potent greenhouse gas.

## Many Uses

Natural Gas Pipeline/  
Town Gas



Internal Combustion  
Engines



Manufacturing -  
Eg., Methanol, DME,  
Desalination (shown here)



CNG/LNG



Mine Ventilation Air



Microturbines

Heating

## Many Benefits

- Improved mine safety and productivity
- Reduced greenhouse gas emissions
- Productive use of an otherwise wasted energy resource
- Additional revenue centre
- Skilled job creation
- Positive corporate image

# UNECE

## Ad Hoc Group of Experts on CMM

### Programme of Work:

- Mine Safety
- Co-operation
- Project Finance (2005-2008)
- New mandate 2009-2010

# Project Finance

Extra-budgetary project to facilitate financing of CMM projects in Central and Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS)

**US-EPA grant successfully completed in 2008**

**Future activities may best focus on:**

- Improved gas drainage and safe management
- Understanding what is the technical potential for safe gas drainage and transportation;
- Project execution: improve project delivery.
- Market identification.
- Stakeholders View of UNECE Involvement:
  - ✓ Investors/Financial community - positive
  - ✓ Mining companies/project sponsors – future beneficiaries
  - ✓ Governments - generally positive

# Mine Safety

- Viewed as highest priority by Group of Experts
- Cooperative Project on Methane Capture and Use to Improve Mine Safety: *Best practice guidance on Effective Methane Capture and use at Coal Mines*
  - **Public-Private-Multilateral Partnership (UNECE-M2M-WCI)**

## Best Practice Guidance for

### Effective Methane Drainage and Use at Coal Mines

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Session of AHGE – legislation and regulations pertaining to CMM drainage & use; coal industry lacks principles-based good practice guidance.
- 4<sup>th</sup> Session of AHGE – best practice guidance; approved by the Committee on Sustainable Energy at its 17<sup>th</sup> Session, November 2008.
- 5<sup>th</sup> session of the AHGE – draft report presented to AHGE and received positive feedbacks and comments.
- Technical Peer Review – Nov. 2009.
- Final editing and Publication of report: ECE Energy Series (1Q 2010).
- Launch of publication and dissemination (M2M Expo, India, March 2010).
- Associated workshops, seminars (April 2010-2011)

# Project Goal

**‘Support safer mining practices to reduce fatalities, injuries and property losses, whilst also encouraging use of the CMM to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and use otherwise wasted energy resources’**

## Project aims to:

- Strive toward goal of zero fatalities, injuries and property losses.
- Demonstrate the global coal industry’s commitment to mine safety, climate change mitigation, corporate social responsibility and good citizenship.
- Establish an industry-to-industry dialogue and network.
- Create the necessary linkage between the industry and government/regulatory officials.
- Link effective CMM capture as a part of an effective risk management portfolio.

## Complementary, Not Duplicative

- Number of bilateral and multilateral initiatives to support improved mine safety:
  - UNDP – Strengthening Coal Mine Safety Capacity in China
  - ILO – Code of Practice on Safety and Health in Underground Coalmines
- Industry lacks set of recommended principles and standards for methane recovery and utilisation
- Audience: mine operators, regulators, government officials and technical professionals

# Deliverables

- Publication of best practices guidance on methane drainage and utilisation
  - Detailed objectives and principles
    - NOT prescriptive
    - NOT a technical manual
  - References respected technical manuals
  - Chapters can also be stand-alone documents
  - Available in multiple languages
- Workshop / seminar series: Add value and disseminate findings

# Structure



# Cooperation



➤ **US EPA**

➤ **Methane to Markets Partnership**

- M2M sub-committee, 5th sessions AHGE, October 2009

➤ **WCI**

➤ **UNDP**

➤ **ILO**

- **Mine safety**

# Thank You!



**Mr. S. Shumkov, Vice-Chairman**

**Ms. C. Segre, Secretary**

**UNECE Ad Hoc Group of Experts  
on Coal Mine Methane**

**[www.unece.org/energy/se/cmm.html](http://www.unece.org/energy/se/cmm.html)**