



**GAS RECOVERY**

**Optical Fugitive Emission  
Pilot Study**

Terence Trefiak P. Eng.

January 17<sup>th</sup> 2007

# Overview

- Background
- Pilot Study Scope
- Summary of Findings
  - Source Data
  - Facility Comparison
  - Economics
- Path Forward

# Fugitive Emissions

**Losses (leaks) of HC product  
(methane, propane, VOC's)**

## **UNINTENTIONAL FUGITIVES**

- normal wear and tear / damage
- improper or incomplete assembly of components
- inadequate material specification
- manufacturing defects

## **INTENTIONAL FUGITIVES**

- venting (tanks, controllers, comp. seals, stacks, etc.)

**“Why worry about some little leaks?”**

**“What is the Problem?”**

Gas leaks are *invisible*,  
*unregulated* and *go*  
*unnoticed*

# Background

## Study Objective

- evaluate new leak detection and measurement technology and determine actual facility fugitive emission rates

## Drivers

- Increase production & reduce costs by recovering lost gas
- CAPP Fugitive Emission Management BMP
- Increase operations Health & Safety
- Reduce GHG emissions / Carbon Credits
- Part of CPC E/E, Gas Star Program, and BIC Initiative

# Background

## Detection Technology

- **GasfindIR - optical emission technology**
  - infrared video camera with hydrocarbon/VOC filter
  - provides visible images of a HC gas emissions in real-time

### **Benefits :**

- Rapid, accurate and safe detection
- Scan hard-to-reach components from a distance
- Assessments performed without interruption of operations
- Inspection times are minimal, which can keep costs down.
- With exact leak source info, repairs are less time consuming and less expensive.
- Cost-effectively scan hundreds of components simultaneously

### **Approx. Cost:**

\$75,000.00USD



# Background

## Measurement Technology

- **HiFlow Sampler – volumetric leak measurement**
  - vacuum flow rate detection uses dual-element hydrocarbon (methane) detector
  - measures hydrocarbon concentrations in the captured air stream and determines the leak flow rate (+- 10%)

### **Benefits :**

- offers a much higher accuracy of measurement (compared to conventional methods)
- allows an objective cost-benefit analysis of each repair opportunity

### **Approx. Cost:**

\$14,000 USD



# SCOPE

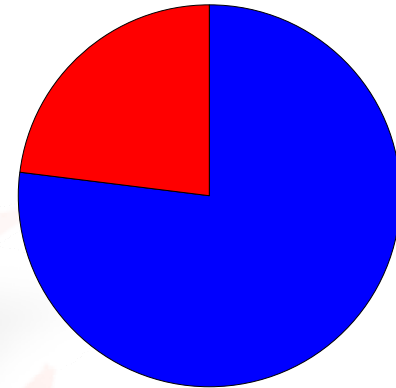
- Evaluate 22 facilities (9 gas plants and 13 comp. stns.) from various asset areas
- Obtain fugitive emission data
- Complete repair cost/benefit analysis
- Create recommendations for applying a Canada-wide program (CAPP BMP)



# SOURCE INFO

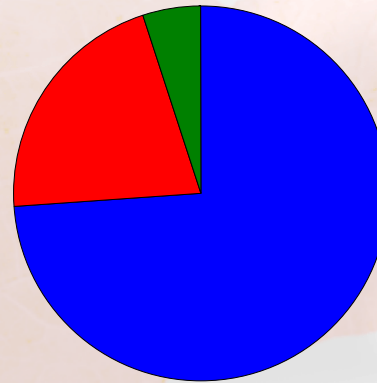
## # of Sources

- **77%** leaking components (111)
- **23%** other fugitive emission sources (33)
- **92%** economical to repair (133)



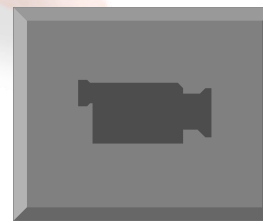
## Composition

- **75%** Process gas (108)
- **21%** Fuel gas (30)
- **4%** Propane (6)

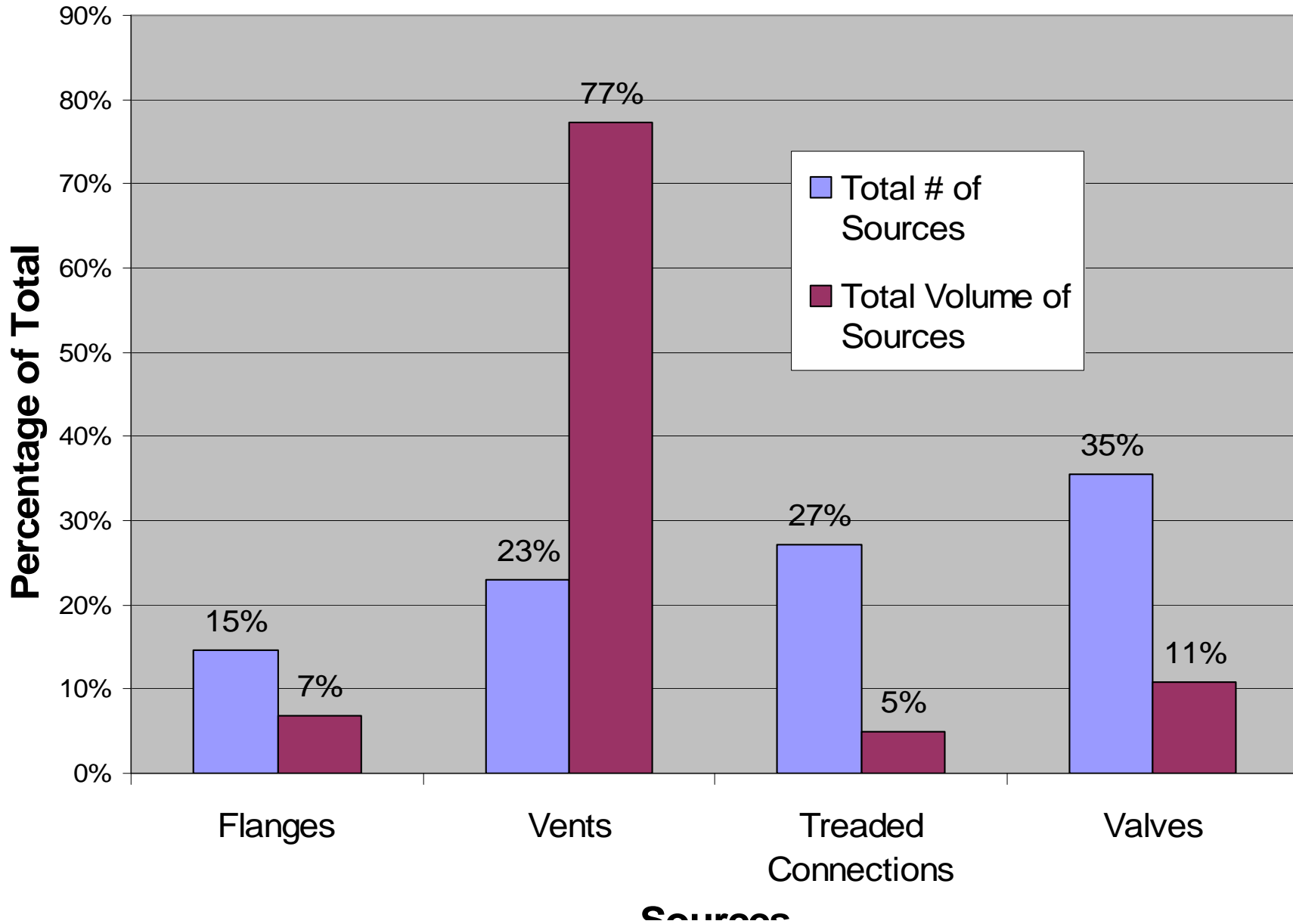


## Location

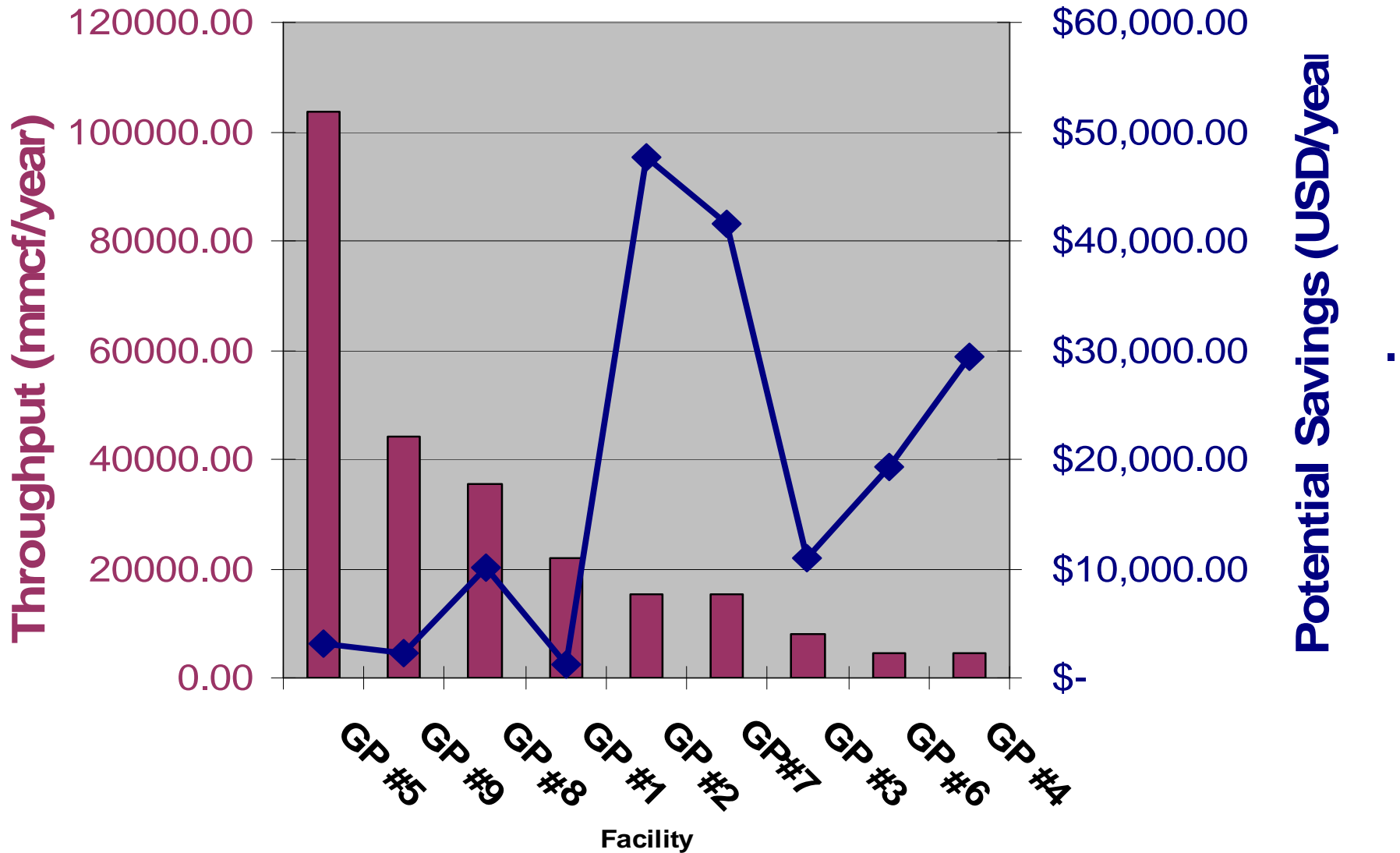
- 72% Compressor Buildings
- 20% Process Buildings
- 4% Outside piping
- 4% Tanks



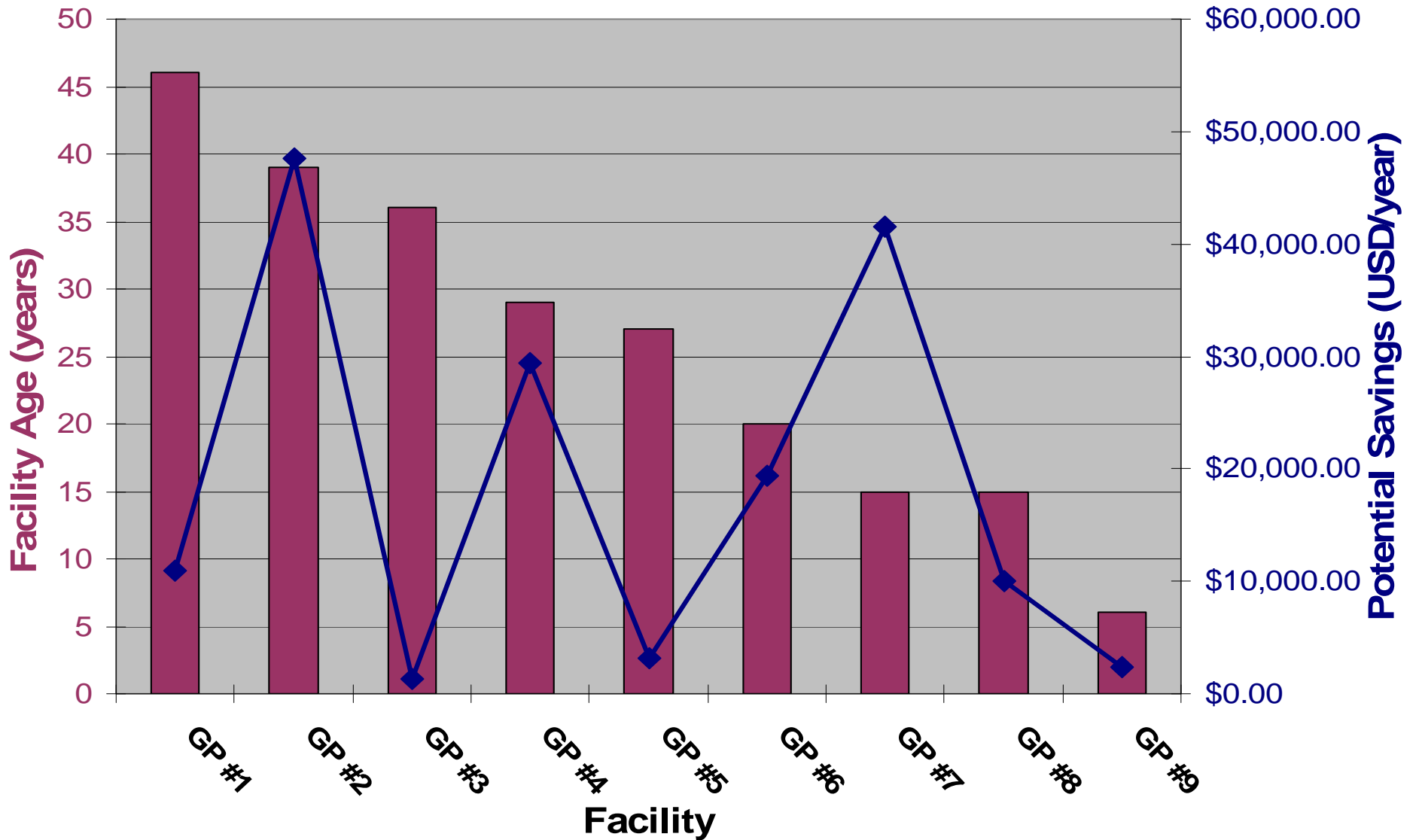
# SOURCE TYPES




# GAS PLANT COMPARISON



# GAS PLANT COMPARISON



# ECONOMICS

Average Yearly Savings/Facility (US\$/year)	<b>\$16,300.00</b>
Average Total Cost/Facility (US\$/year) (assessment and repairs)	<b>\$8,000.00</b>
Average Est. Payout Period (years)	<b>0.50</b>
Total Gross Est. Annual Savings (US\$/year)	<b>\$10,400,000.00</b>
Total Est. NPV (US\$/year)	<b>\$35,000,000.00</b>
CO <sub>2</sub> e/year Reduction (tonnes) 	<b>630,000</b>
CO <sub>2</sub> e Credit Value (US\$)	<b>\$15,750,000.00</b>

\* Using \$5.50 USD/mmbtu and \$25.00 USD/tonne CO<sub>2</sub>e

# CAPP BMP CONTROL STRATEGY

- **Fugitive Assessment Schedule**
  - Company-wide assessment of all facilities
- **Fugitive Maintenance Plan**
  - Operating procedures and performance objectives for minimizing fugitive emissions
  - Directed Inspection & Maintenance (DI&M) Program
    - Prioritize inspections to target high potential processes and components
  - Influence facility design (i.e. flow meters, low bleed, vapour recovery, etc.)

**Table 1. Proposed schedule for implementation of this fugitive**

**Initial 4-year Schedule**

- ~150 Facilities/ year
  - Majority of GP in 1<sup>st</sup> year
- ~ 70 assessment days/year
- Coordinate with turn-arounds when possible

**After 4 years**

- 2 year maintenance-phase schedule
- Average assessment times drop due to leak rates decline
- Leak-prone facilities will require a higher priority/rate of assessment
- Operators request assessments based on fugitive maintenance findings

two

two

Type

Gas P

Comp  
Statio

Group  
Batter  
Single

Batteries

Vapor Control				
---------------	--	--	--	--

# PATH FORWARD

- **Set schedule to follow CAPP BMP guideline**
- **Evaluate pipeline opportunities**
- **Decide on resources**
  - i.e. third party, in-house, cost/benefit evaluation
- **Develop Fugitive Maintenance Plan**
  - Imbed Fugitive Management into Operations and Facility Design
- **Education / Knowledge Sharing**





**QUESTIONS?**