Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane (GoE CMM)

Ray PILCHER
Chair, GoE CMM and Raven Ridge Resources

UNECE Committee on Sustainable Energy
Geneva, 18 November 2015
Recent Highlights

• Interest in methane growing

• Important role for delivering on and Climate Action

• Methane from extractive activities

• Role of fossil fuels in the future energy system

• Continued close cooperation with Global Methane Initiative (GMI)
  - GoE will participate in GMI Global Methane Forum, Washington, March 2016
  - Strategic alliance between UNECE and GMI being explored
Recent Highlights

- Establishment of an International Centre of Excellence on Coal Mine Methane in Poland, October 2015
- EPA-funded extrabudgetary project “for dissemination of best practices in the emission abatement, recovery and use of CMM
- Best Practice Guidance for Effective Methane Drainage and Recovery in Coal Mines
- Case studies
- Cooperation with ILO

Current challenges and future outlook

• Growing role of and interest in methane management
• GoE on CMM unique forum
• Results-oriented. Delivers concrete outputs. Non-duplicative.
• Sustained interest from UNECE member countries with active coal mining operations

• Challenges:
  – Ambitious work plan for 2016-2017 (annex to ECE/ENERGY/GE.4/2015/2)
    - GoE relies heavily on significant voluntary contributions for delivery
  – Transition of traditional mining companies to integrated service companies and impact on energy for sustainable development
  – Completing substantive and administrative discussions in one day extremely challenging. GoE is requesting annual sessions over two days
Recommendations to Committee

• Report of GoE CMM tenth session (ECE/ENERGY/GE.4/2015/2)
  ✓ request Committee to take note

• Support continuation of the ongoing work with active participation of experts
  ✓ request endorsement by Committee of extension of mandate to 31 December 2017

  ✓ request endorsement by Committee
Recommendations to Committee

• GoE CMM at Tenth Session recommended that the BPG on CMM be updated in 2016
  ✔ *request endorsement by Committee*

• Challenge to complete all work during a one-day annual meeting. GoE CMM requests annual meetings be held over two days
  ✔ *request support from Committee*
Thank you

http://www.unece.org/energy/se/cmm.html