Program Participation & Initiatives

Cabot Oil & Gas Corporation (Cabot) joined the Natural Gas STAR Program effective May 19, 2010.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) launched the Natural Gas STAR Program in 1993. The Natural Gas STAR Program is a flexible, voluntary partnership that encourages oil and natural gas companies to adopt proven, cost-effective technologies and practices that improve operational efficiency and reduce methane emissions.

Through the Natural Gas STAR Program, EPA has been working collaboratively with the oil and natural gas industry in the United States to provide a framework to encourage partner companies to implement methane emission reducing technologies and practices and document their voluntary emission reduction activities. As a result, EPA has compiled a comprehensive suite of technical information on proven cost-effective methane mitigation technologies and practices that have been successfully implemented by partner companies.

Participation in the Natural Gas STAR Program has the following benefits:

• **Information Sharing and Technology Transfer**—EPA facilitates Technology Transfer and Annual Implementation Workshops and publishes detailed Lessons Learned Studies and Partner Reported Opportunities (PRO) Fact Sheets; technical reports and studies; and a quarterly newsletter.

• **Program and Technical Assistance**—Natural Gas STAR offers a full range of Program support and technical assistance to partners. Through such services as project- and operational-level analyses, technical workshops, and administrative Program support, EPA provides guidance that helps partners reap the full economic and environmental benefits of reducing methane emissions.

• **Peer Networking**—Partners can participate in Technology Transfer Workshops, Annual Implementation Workshops, and Web-based communications to build strong networks with industry peers and keep up on industry trends, initiatives, and the latest technologies.

• **Voluntary Record of Reductions**—Through Program participation and reporting, companies create a permanent record of their voluntary accomplishments in reducing methane emissions.

• **Public Recognition**—EPA provides recognition, honors, and distinctions to highlight partner achievements at an annual awards ceremony, in articles in the Program newsletter and industry journals, public service announcements, and technical studies and fact sheets. EPA also helps partners communicate Program achievements to shareholders, customers, and the public.
As a Natural Gas STAR Program partner, Cabot has completed the following steps:

Step 1: Sign a One-Page Memorandum of Understanding
COGC submitted the memorandum of understanding to EPA on 5/19/10.

Step 2: Develop an Implementation Plan
COGC is evaluating the following as potential practices to implement for methane emissions reductions:

• VRU installations
• Install plunger lifts
• Replace high bleed pneumatic devices
• Convert to instrument air systems
• Install flash tank separators on dehydrators

Step 3: Execute the Program
COGC is developing procedures to document the installation and/or operations procedures that result in a decrease in methane emissions.

Step 4: Submit an Annual Progress Report
The first annual report for calendar year 2011 was submitted to EPA on April 30, 2012.

As part of the Natural Gas STAR Program, Cabot has voluntarily agreed to replace/retrofit a minimum number of high-bleed pneumatic control devices per year. In addition, Cabot is working with our operations departments to identify facilities where the installation of Vapor Recovery Units and Flash Tank Separators is mechanically feasible.

Participation in the Natural Gas STAR Program is ongoing and is managed by Cabot’s Corporate Manager, Emissions Compliance.