Subject: New report: U.S. certified gas schemes threaten EU methane emissions reduction goals

Hello,

As the EU discusses new rules to tackle methane emissions in the energy sector, it is crucial to strengthen the measures to regulate methane emissions from fossil fuel imports. Our new report, “Certified Disaster,” makes clear that gas producers and Liquified Natural Gas (LNG) exporters cannot be trusted to clean up their methane emissions, strengthening the case for rigorous regulation.

Certified gas is a new scheme that U.S. gas producers and LNG exporters are pushing to help clean up America’s reputation for producing dirty methane gas. The Certified Disaster report exposes flaws in how certified gas is produced.

Our research found that the monitors used to detect and measure emissions at gas wells failed to detect all 22 pollution events witnessed during site visits. We also found that Project Canary is misrepresenting the impact of certified gas, that several board members are invested in gas companies that the company certifies, and that there is little to no public access to the data behind certified gas claims.

The EU is among the largest fossil fuel importers in the world, the bloc imports 70% of its hard coal consumption, 97% of its oil consumption and 90% of its fossil gas consumption. In 2022, the EU was the primary destination for U.S. LNG exports. The EU Methane Regulation Proposal considers requiring fossil fuel imports into the EU, such as U.S. LNG, to meet emissions criteria in the upstream sector. Ahead of the upcoming adoption of the European Parliament’s position on the text, MEPs should take note of the evident failures of the certified gas industry to detect pollution, lack of transparency, and conflicts of interest detailed in our report.

Please see our attached 2-pager for a quick overview of the report and its implications for the EU’s methane reduction goals.

We would also be happy to meet with you virtually in the coming month about these issues if you’re available.

Thank you so much,