



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 26, 2023

CONTACT: Gwen Lachelt, 505-469-0380, gwen@westernleaders.org

Jess Pace, 615-294-2049, jess@westernleaders.org

Western Leaders Network Celebrates New Cabinet-Level Methane Task Force

Today, President Biden announced the creation of a new cabinet-level Methane Task Force dedicated to addressing the issue of climate-damaging methane pollution from the oil and gas sector.

Western Leaders Network Executive Director Gwen Lachelt attended the White House's first-ever Methane Summit in Washington, DC on Wednesday, where the administration announced the formation of the task force and pledged to tackle the climate crisis through methane mitigation.

"We applaud President Biden's announcement of the new cabinet-level Methane Task Force," Lachelt said. "The oil and gas sector is responsible for one-third of global warming. We need an Apollo-like mission to cut methane at the national and global level."

The White House Methane Summit focused on the need to drastically cut methane emissions caused by the oil and gas industry in order to protect public health and achieve national climate objectives. Local, tribal and federal representatives attended Wednesday's event to discuss new technologies to detect and monitor methane emissions, leak detection and repair efforts, and national and international coalition-building to address this issue.

The new Methane Task Force will accelerate the U.S. Methane Emissions Reduction Plan and dedicate its efforts to advancing a collaborative approach across all levels of government to reducing methane pollution. That will include supporting state and local regulatory efforts. [Learn more here.](#)