

January 31, 2024

The Honorable Gina Raimondo
Secretary
Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20230

RE: Recommendations for U.S. Government and Industry Support for the Fulfilment
of the Global Methane Pledge
ETTAC Recommendation 2024-5

The Environmental Technologies Trade Advisory Committee (ETTAC) is a federally established committee whose purpose is to advise on the policies and procedures of the U.S. government that affect all facets of the environmental technologies industry, including the water and wastewater treatment; air pollution monitoring and control; composting and organics management; and recycling and solid waste management sectors. This includes small to large businesses, trade associations and thought leaders. In this capacity, the ETTAC appreciates the opportunity to provide these comments and recommendations to help achieve policy goals that lead to more resilient, diverse, and secure supply chains, including where the circular economy plays a key role, which are essential to U.S. environmental technology, goods and services providers and creates opportunities for their deployment in international markets.

The challenges related to climate change are global, and the U.S. Government played a pivotal role in developing the Global Methane Pledge, through which 155 countries have pledged to support a 30% reduction in global methane emissions by 2030 and committed more than \$1 billion to catalyze action. We applaud the recent White House Methane Summit, the Cabinet-level Methane Task Force, and the U.S. Methane Action Plan. We have also seen individual agencies working to develop independent programming to support the Global Methane Pledge. However, we believe that more can be done by U.S. government and industry on Leading International Efforts on Methane Management. As companies and organizations that focus on environmental products and services, we have a great interest in seeing U.S. global leadership with respect to the implementation of the Global Methane Pledge, which is not only critical for the planet but offers opportunity for the export of U.S. goods, services, and ingenuity.

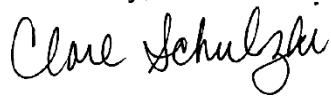
In order to advance U.S. global leadership on methane management, the ETTAC recommends the administration establish an interagency initiative (akin to Power Africa) to support the execution of the Global Methane Pledge. This initiative should include USAID, the State Department, Environmental Protection Agency, Department of

Commerce, Department of Energy, USTDA, Development Finance Corporation, U.S. Treasury, and other relevant agencies. Specifically:

- The administration should create a coherent interagency strategy, with access to appropriate resources, to support execution of the Global Methane Pledge across the U.S. and partner countries. This should focus on capacity building for methane management and measurement, monitoring, reporting, and verification (MMRV), mobilization of financial resources for methane management, and access to technology and services for methane management.
- Each agency should appoint a methane coordinator similar to the role that USAID has already created, working toward a common interagency strategy and key performance indicators, who has access to dedicated resources.
- U.S. EPA's deep technical expertise deployed through the Global Methane Initiative should be scaled to help develop capacity for countries methane management and MMRV.
- USAID should find every availability opportunity to integrate methane management into sectoral programs in energy (including Power Africa), agriculture (including Feed the Future), wastewater (within the Global Water Strategy), mining, and solid waste.
- USAID should design one or more global or regional programs to help countries who have joined the Global Methane Pledge develop national methane action plans and a viable, investable pipeline of projects for methane management.
- U.S. Department of Commerce and USTDA should continue to expand their work to help US companies be more competitive in international methane management markets. Specifically, U.S. expertise in engineering, oil and gas equipment, landfill and mine gas capture, organics and composting, anaerobic digestion, wastewater management, agricultural production, atmospheric methane capture, enteric fermentation, and other related areas could be brought to bear on methane management.
- The Development Finance Corporation, and the U.S. Executive Directors of the World Bank, EBRD, Interamerican Development Bank, African Development Bank, and Asian Development Bank should focus on making financial resources available for the execution of methane management projects at scale. While methane management projects are often economically viable, they are frequently executed at the subnational level and small to medium scale. Thus, a portfolio approach to financing can be advantageous, and prefeasibility screening tools such as those developed by EPA under the Global Methane Initiative could be useful. Furthermore, such programs can help to more rapidly scale adoption of technologies to deliver methane abatement at speeds better aligned with the Global Methane Pledge.

We appreciate the Administration's leadership in the Global Methane Pledge and the opportunity to present these comments and recommendations on behalf of the ETTAC.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Clare Schulzki". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Clare Schulzki
ETTAC Chair

CC: Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Michael Regan
Secretary of State Antony Blinken
USAID Administrator Samantha Power
Development Finance Corporation CEO Scott Nathan
Secretary of the Treasury Janet Yellen
U.S. Trade and Development Agency Director Enoch Titilayo Ebong
Department of Energy Secretary Jennifer Granholm