

Tradewater is a mission-based company dedicated to collecting, controlling, and destroying potent greenhouse gases. Tradewater has permanently prevented over 6.9 million tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e) from being released into the atmosphere and is building to reach a scale of 3 million tons of impact per year. Tradewater is headquartered in the United States and Costa Rica, and is developing projects around the world.

METHANE ACCELERATES CLIMATE CHANGE

Methane accounts for **20% of the world's greenhouse gas emissions from human activity** and is the second largest cause of climate change after CO₂. Methane is a powerful short-lived climate pollutant. It lives in the atmosphere for only 10-12 years, but it is **84 times** more potent than carbon dioxide in this time frame. That's why preventing the release of methane as soon as possible, and at the largest scale possible, is so important to avert runaway climate change. Strategies that stop methane emissions will quickly decrease global warming and effectively buy more time for longer term carbon dioxide emission reduction policies to be implemented at scale.

ORPHANED OIL AND GAS WELLS

A major source of methane is orphaned oil and gas wells. These wells leak methane because the original well operator has gone bankrupt, is otherwise insolvent, or has disappeared and there is no responsible party left to plug them.

In the United States, the Environmental Protection Agency estimates that there are **over 1 million orphaned wells** that have not been plugged. Data on unplugged wells is limited and methane releases from them are not fully known. However, early estimates indicate that an unplugged well can release up to **4,000 tons of CO₂e per year**.

While more attention is being paid to this problem, and some federal money in the United States has been allocated to plug abandoned and orphaned oil and gas wells, there is not enough government funding to prevent all methane leaks from this source.



STOPPING METHANE RELEASES

Tradewater is taking on this problem by finding orphaned oil and gas wells, quantifying the methane that would otherwise be emitted into the atmosphere, and then plugging the wells to prevent further leakage. Orphaned wells are defined as being unplugged, inactive and have no solvent owner of record.

Tradewater conducts two rounds of field tests to confirm methane releases and then coordinates with landowners and agencies to plan plugging activities. Tradewater hires qualified local contractors to remove surface equipment, fill wells with cement, and remediate the land, permanently stopping current and future methane leaks.

Tradewater conducts all the work and provides all the necessary financing. It is additional to government funded plugging programs and thus extends the use of government funding to plug more wells.



CREATING ACCURATE, PERMANENT, AND ADDITIONAL CLIMATE BENEFITS

Tradewater conducts its work in accordance with a carbon offset [protocol](#) established for orphaned oil and gas wells by the American Carbon Registry (ACR). Our work is verified by independent verification bodies and results in carbon offset credits issued by ACR. Plugging orphaned oil and gas wells **permanently** prevents ongoing and future releases of methane. The work is **additional** to any regulatory requirement and to other government funded programs. Because we directly measure the methane coming from each well, the environmental benefit is **accurate**.

INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE?

Contact us at info@tradewater.us or visit us: