

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

"Methane is a ripe target for climate action because it traps 84 times more heat than the same amount of CO2 over 20 years. Methane has more than doubled since preindustrial times and accounts for about half the 1.1°C of global warming to date." – Science.org (2 Nov 2021)

More than half of annual global methane emmissions are "weak", escaping at concentrations far too low to ignite, less than 2%

This NETL-funded project will demonstrate oxidation of methane slip from a lean burn engine. There are fifty thousand such large lean burn engines in the US.

# The Design and Engineering of 100cfm Prototype

Heat transfer calculations provided by Czero utilizing Thole Corr.

Ansys Fluent/Chemkin simulations, flow distribution CFD, and CAD design by UC Davis

3D additive manufacturing engineering by Carnegie Mellon and Kaiser Aluminum

### **3D Printing with High Temperature Alloys**

3D print with Haynes® 282® alloy of reactor provided by 3D print with Carnegie Inconel® 625 of Mellon recuperator done

The Team KAISER ALUMINUM American Bureau of Shipping Xi-Ying Zhang, PhD Mike Begarney, PhD Sr. Engineer Chief Scientist Prabhu Energy Labs **3D** Printing Future Edan Prabhu **Colorado State University** CEO and founder Monica Prabhu Daniel B. Olsen, PhD Chris Turner, PE Commercialization & Professor Mechanical Engineering Communications VP of Engineering Awardee Engineering Support Robinson Huang Project Manager **Engine Testing** UCDAVIS 60 Vinod Nrayanan, PhD **Carnegie Mellon University** Professor Mechanical Engineering Anthony Rollett, PhD 63 Aref Aboud UCDAVIS essor Material Science & Engineering R&D Engineer 8 Vinod Nrayanan, PhD icholas Lamprinakos Harsimar Kullar Professor Mechanical Engineering **Research Assistant** Graduate Student Erfan Rasouli, PhD Junwon Seo Timothy R. Levering Associate R&D Engineer Graduate Student R&D Engineer Ines-Noelly Tano Milly Yu-Tsen Yi Yongjing Zhao, PhD Graduate Student Project Scientist

Oxiperator Design (NETL funded)











Testing (CalTestBed funded)



DE-FOA-0002616 iM4 Technologies DOE OFECM NETL Award Number: DE-FE0032286

Termites/ Wild Animals 4%









Andrew Huonder Graduate Research Assistant

Our Mission To be the world leader in harnessing weak methane emissions

Our Vision

If just 10% of wetlands methane could be tapped, the power generated would exceed all wind and solar

> Got Methanes H

Special Thanks to all our industry supporters and partners



**Cal**TestBed



Metallurgy and 3D Printing



Developing the world's only self-sustaining oxidizer capable of destroying weak methane at concentrations as low as **0.3**%

NO additional fuel

NO catalyst

Power from only 1.5% methane in air









Center's STEEL testing facility at UC Davis.

Oxiperator operation at 0.5%, with evidence for success at lower concentrations (see HMI below)

Current modifications to Oxiperator being implemented for upcoming tests targeting operation at 0.3% CH4 concentration



Test 100cfm Oxiperator on exhaust slip stream of a Cummins QSK19G lean-burn engine at the Colorado State University's **Engine & Energy Conversion Laboratory** 

Scale up to 1,000 cfm, 3,000cfm, 10,000 cfm, and more for larger lean burn engines



## **Industries and Methane Emission Sources**

Oil & Gas :	methane slip fro
Coal :	mine ventilation
Waste :	landfill gas (LFC
Wetlands :	marshes, swamp

with a gas turbine





## **The Testing**

- Oxiperator tests carried out at Western Cooling Efficiency
- Test conducted on Feb 29, 2024, demonstrated stable



#### **Next Steps**

om lean-burn engine slip, flares, abandoned wells, vented gas air methane (VAM), drainage, abandoned mine methane G), waste water treatment emissions, anaerobic digesters ps, permafrost, lakes

Renewable Power from 1.5% or stronger methane by combining