



New Mexico Environment Department

Fifth Meeting - Water and Natural Resources Committee

Air Quality Around Oil and Gas Operations and Effectiveness
of Methane and Ozone Rules

Michelle Miano, Director
Environmental Protection Division
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Timeline Overview

- 2019 – Governor Lujan Grisham by Executive Order set the state's climate goal to: **Reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 45% from 2005 levels by 2030.**
- 2021 – Legislature passed directive under NMSA 1978, Section 74-2-5(C) to: **Adopt a plan for ground-level ozone, including rules, to control emissions of oxides of nitrogen and volatile organic compounds to provide for attainment and maintenance of the [ground-level ozone] standard....within the area of the state where the ozone concentrations exceed ninety-five percent of the primary national ambient air quality standard.**
- 2021 – Energy, Natural Resources & Minerals Department took action at Title 19 Chapter 15 Parts 27 and 28 to: **Adopt Methane Waste Rules.**
- 2022 – Environment Department took action at Title 20 Chapter 2 Part 50 to: **Adopt Ozone Precursor Rule.**
- 2022-Present – **Rule implementation and phase-in; data gathering and analysis.**



NMED-Specific Trends

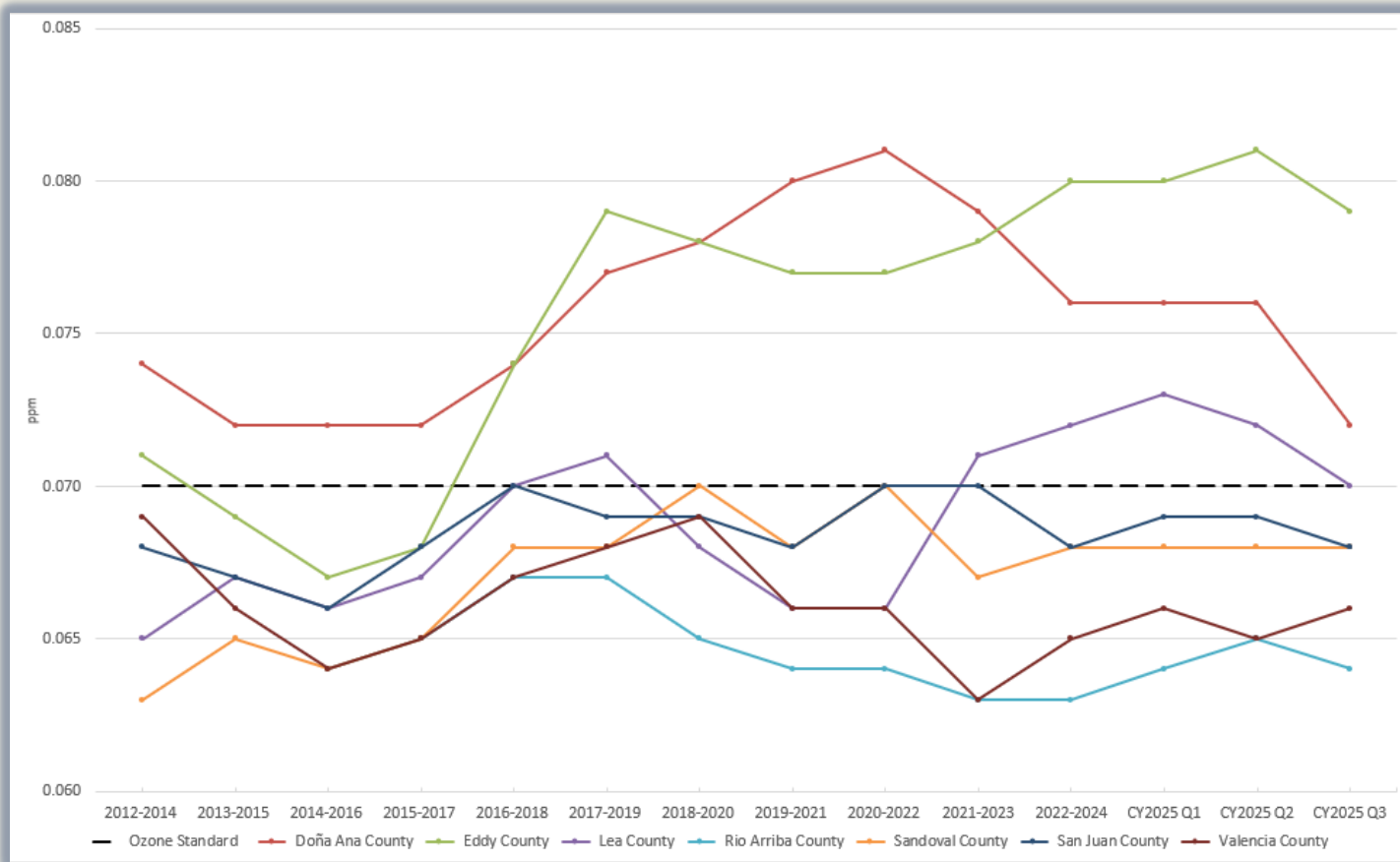
- Increase in permitting – over 2,000% in Air Quality Bureau
- Rule implementation and phase-in
 - ▣ Lowering ground-level ozone data in oil & gas counties (NMED)
 - ▣ Decreasing methane emissions (EMNRD)
- Increasing carbon dioxide emissions
- Compliance continues to be key need
- Local concerns reported



NMED - Ozone NAAQS Values

A design value is a statistic that describes the air quality status of a given location relative to the level of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). Design values are typically used to designate and classify nonattainment areas, as well as to assess progress towards meeting the NAAQS.

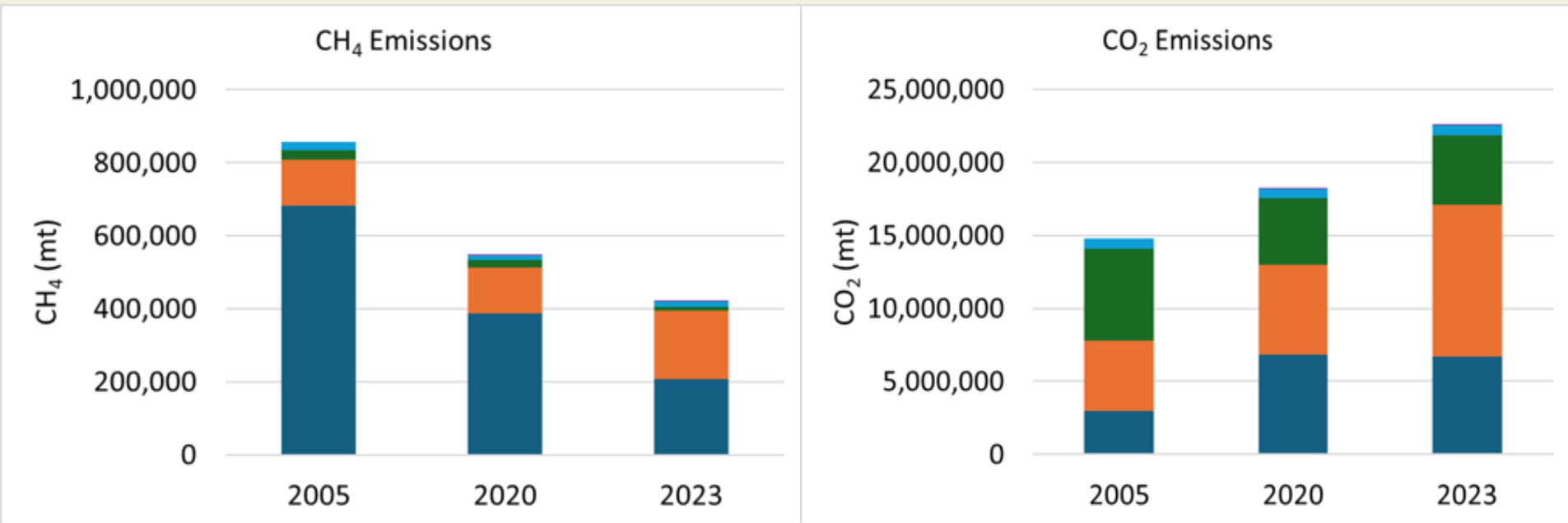
This graph is updated quarterly and newly added data has not been certified. All data displayed should be considered preliminary and used with discretion. The New Mexico Environment Department is not responsible for the accuracy of the data or any interpretations or conclusions that may be drawn from the data.





NMED - Preliminary Data

New Mexico Oil & Gas Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory for Year 2023 Methane (CH₄) and Carbon Dioxide (CO₂)



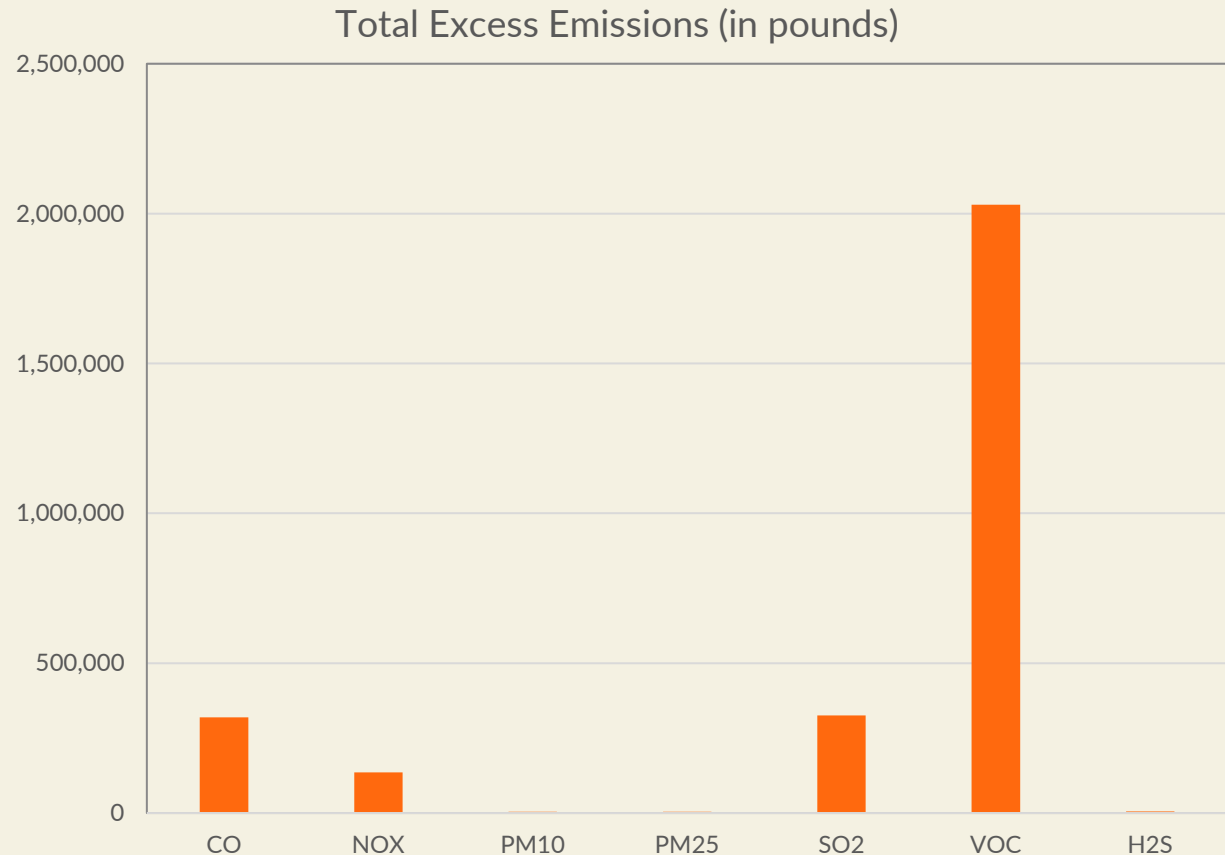
■ Production ■ G&B ■ Processing ■ Transmission + Storage ■ Inactive Oil and Gas Wells

- Greenhouse Gas Inventories for the oil & gas industry conducted for 2005 and 2020
- Crude oil production grew from ~100 million barrels in 2010 to ~745 million barrels in 2024 (<https://nm-secm.org/new-mexico-oil-production/>)



NMED - Excess Emissions by Pollutant

- The Air Quality Bureau received 877 excess emission reports between January 1, 2025, and September 25, 2025.
- Oil and Gas facilities filed 80% of the excess emission reports.





NMED - The Look Ahead

- Preserve progress achieved since 2019
- Develop combination of incentives, voluntary programs and policy approaches
- Compliance and Enforcement = Level-playing field
- Publish new Greenhouse Gas Inventory
- Publish Climate Action Plan (Master Plan) with EMNRD
- Prepare for finalization of federal changes
- **Stabilize NMED Air Quality Program funds**