

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8992

To require a Federal methane super-emitter detection strategy, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 28, 2022

Mr. BEYER (for himself, Mr. PETERS, Ms. DEGETTE, and Mr. LOWENTHAL)
introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on
Science, Space, and Technology

A BILL

To require a Federal methane super-emitter detection
strategy, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Methane Super-Emit-
5 ter Strategy Act of 2022”.

6 **SEC. 2. FEDERAL METHANE SUPER-EMITTER DETECTION**
7 **STRATEGY.**

8 (a) STRATEGY.—

9 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after
10 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Adminis-

1 trator, in consultation with the National Oceanic
2 and Atmospheric Administration, the National Insti-
3 tute of Standards and Technology, and other rel-
4 evant agencies, shall enter into an agreement with
5 the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering,
6 and Medicine to develop a science-based strategy to
7 assess, evaluate, and make recommendations regard-
8 ing the use of present and future greenhouse gas
9 monitoring and detection capabilities, including
10 ground-based, airborne, and space-based sensors and
11 integration of data relating to such monitoring and
12 detection from other indicators, with a focus on the
13 ability to detect large methane emission events (com-
14 monly referred to as “methane super-emitters”).

15 (2) REQUIREMENTS.—The strategy described in
16 subsection (a) shall include the following elements:

17 (A) Development of a consensus definition
18 for the term “methane super-emitter”.

19 (B) Examination of whether and how cur-
20 rent and planned Federal greenhouse gas moni-
21 toring and detection capabilities may be lever-
22 aged to monitor and detect methane super-
23 emitters, and identify key gaps in such capabili-
24 ties.

1 (C) Consideration of a means to facilitate
2 effective interagency collaboration for green-
3 house gas monitoring and detection, data stand-
4 ards, stewardship, and data integration, to
5 monitor and detect methane super-emitters.

6 (D) Consideration regarding how agencies
7 that conduct greenhouse gas monitoring and de-
8 tection can enhance the scientific and oper-
9 ational value and enable the broader application
10 of information regarding methane super-
11 emitters, including by operationalizing methane
12 super-emitter data to support the rapid mitiga-
13 tion of methane sources and integrating such
14 data from multiple sources.

15 (E) Consideration of options for the Fed-
16 eral Government to partner with non-govern-
17 mental entities, including State and local gov-
18 ernments, academia, non-profit organizations,
19 commercial industry, and international organi-
20 zations, to effectively leverage present and fu-
21 ture greenhouse gas monitoring and detection
22 capabilities to monitor and detect methane
23 super-emitters.

1 (F) Recommendations regarding the activi-
2 ties under subparagraphs (A) through (E), as
3 appropriate.

4 (b) USE OF STRATEGY.—The Administrator may use
5 the strategy described in subsection (a) to inform the plan-
6 ning of research and development activities regarding
7 greenhouse gas monitoring and detection and the moni-
8 toring and detection of methane super-emitters.

9 (c) REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after the
10 date of the execution of the agreement between the Admin-
11 istrator and the National Academies of Sciences, Engi-
12 neering, and Medicine under subsection (a), the National
13 Academies shall submit to the Administrator, the Com-
14 mittee on Science, Space, and Technology of the House
15 of Representatives, and the Committee on Commerce,
16 Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report on the
17 strategy described in subsection (a).

18 (d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

19 (1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Adminis-
20 trator” means the Administrator of the National
21 Aeronautics and Space Administration.

22 (2) GREENHOUSE GAS MONITORING AND DE-
23TECTION.—The term “greenhouse gas monitoring
24 and detection” means the direct observation, from

1 space or in-situ, or collection of measurement data
2 pertaining to, greenhouse gas emissions and levels.

3 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
4 authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator
5 \$1,200,000 to carry out this section.

○