# Electric Transmission & Distribution SF<sub>6</sub> Coalition

New Jersey Clean Air Council Annual Public Hearing April 10, 2019

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General Manager – DILO Company Inc. & DILO Direct

**Coalition Member** 

IEEE Chair for SF<sub>6</sub> Gas handling group & Member of K group (regarding SF<sub>6</sub>)

### **Presentation Topics**



- 1. SF<sub>6</sub> Gas
- 2. History (GIE)
- 3. Safety
- 4. Why SF<sub>6</sub> gas is an excellent solution for GIE
- 5. Overview of SF<sub>6</sub>reporting regulations
  - a. EPA
  - b. CARB
  - c. MASS DEP
  - d. Others
- 6. What's being done to reduce emissions
  - a. SF<sub>6</sub> handling practices
  - b. Alternative Solutions



## NEMA SF<sub>6</sub> Gas Coalition

SF<sub>6</sub> Gas

#### **History**



- Discovered in 1901 by Henri Moissan and Paul LaBeau
- Characteristics:
  - Manmade not naturally occurring
  - Undetectable colorless, odorless, tasteless
  - Stable Chemically inert
  - **Dielectric** excellent arc quenching capabilities
  - Thermally Stable / heat trapping
  - Excellent re-association / self-healing after arcing event



#### **Properties**



- **Heavy** 5 times heavier than air
- Compressible liquifies at approx. 250psi at 68°F
- Asphyxiant displaces atmospheric oxygen
  - OSHA maximum exposure limit 1,000 PPM
- Unmatched dielectric strength 2.5x better than air
- Arc quenching capabilities 100x better than air
- Thermally stable high breakdown temperature
- Self-healing –molecules will recombine after heat source is removed



### NEMA SF<sub>6</sub> Gas Coalition

# **GIE History**

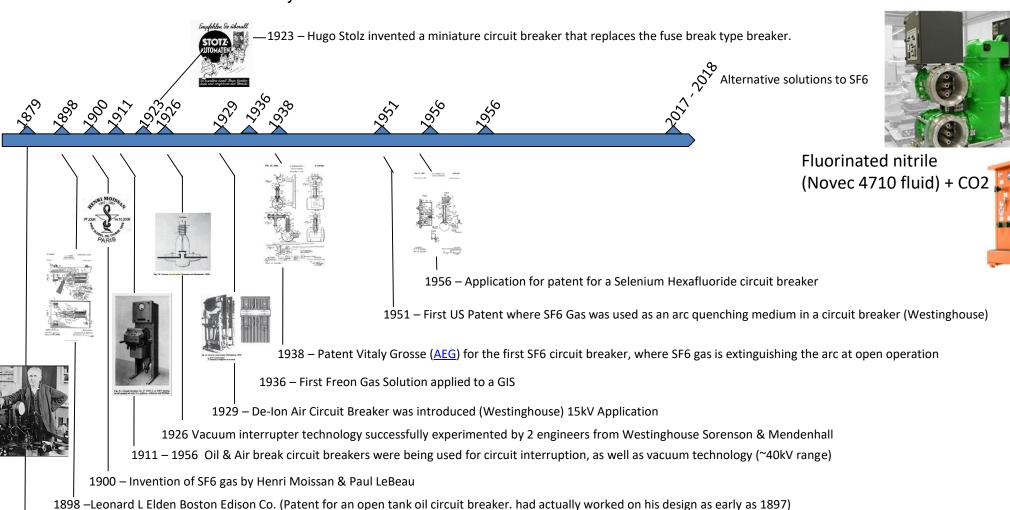


IN 1950 DURING THE KOREAN WAR, SOME US MARINES RAN OUT OF MORTAR ROUNDS. SO, THEY USED A RADIO TO ASK FOR MORE AMMO. BUT WHEN MAKING THEIR REQUEST, THE SOLDIERS USED THEIR CODE NAME FOR MORTAR SHELLS, WHICH WAS "TOOTSIE ROLLS." THE PERSON ON THE OTHER END OF THE RADIO TOOK IT LITERALLY, AND WHEN THE AIRDROP ARRIVED IT WAS FILLED WITH ACTUAL TOOTSIE ROLLS.

#### **GIE History**

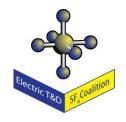


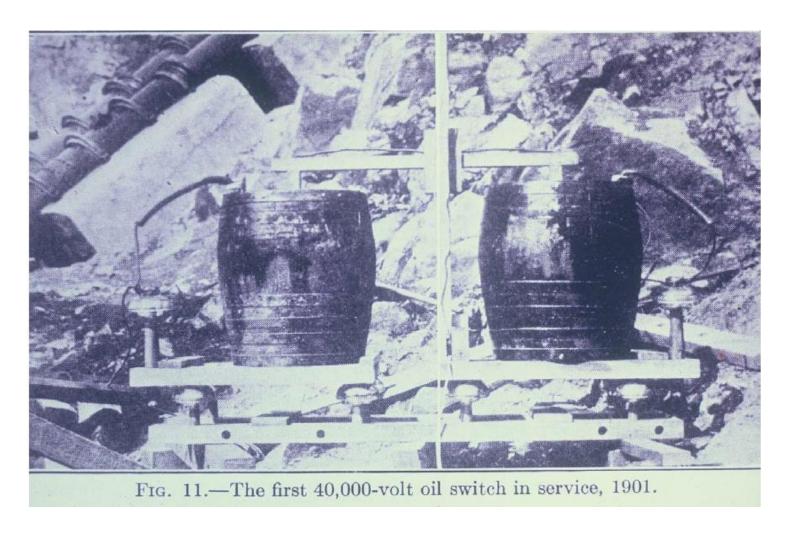
The time line as described by me!



1879 – Thomas Edison designed and patented his idea of a circuit breaker.

#### **GIE History**

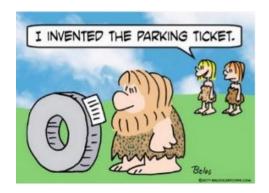


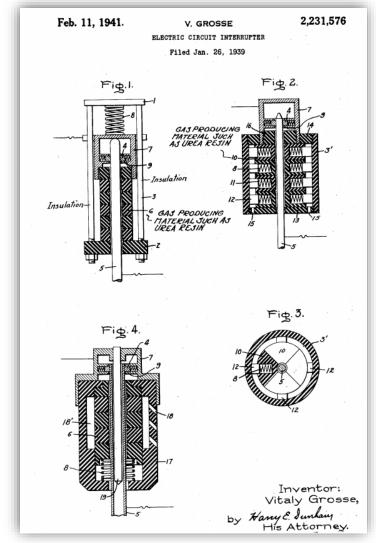


I have heard it called a pickle barrel breaker!

#### **GIE History**







- The first patents on the use of SF<sub>6</sub> as an interrupting medium were filed in Germany in 1938 by Vitaly Grosse (<u>AEG</u>) and independently later in the United States in July 1951 by H. J. Lingal, T. E. Browne and A. P. Storm (<u>Westinghouse</u>).
- The first industrial application of SF<sub>6</sub> for current interruption dates to 1953. High-voltage 15 kV to 161 kV load switches were developed with a breaking capacity of 600 A. The first high-voltage SF<sub>6</sub> circuit breaker built in 1956 by Westinghouse, could interrupt 5 kA under 115 kV, but it had six interrupting chambers in series per pole.

# SF<sub>6</sub> Gas in GIE – How it works







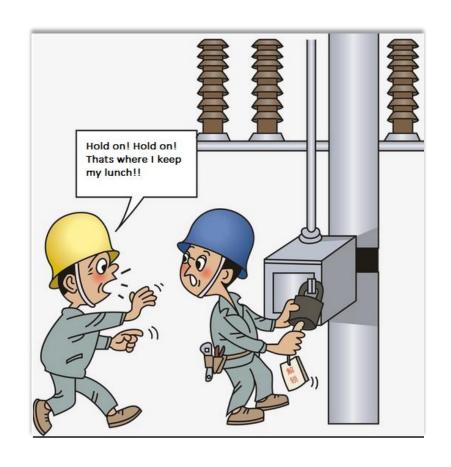






# Safety

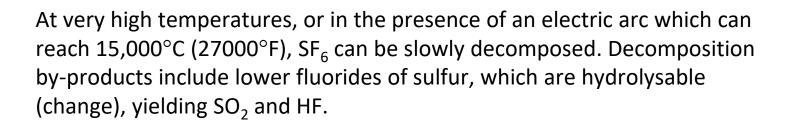






#### Safety

- Harmless in the presence of air (5x heavier than air)
  - Will displace air / asphyxiation
- Will decompose at temperatures > 350 F
  - Breaker operations
  - Welding
  - Running engines / heaters / open flames
  - Smoking
    - Temperature during drawing up to 700 C (1292 F)
      - Source: http://www.physlink.com/education/askexperts/ae1.cfm









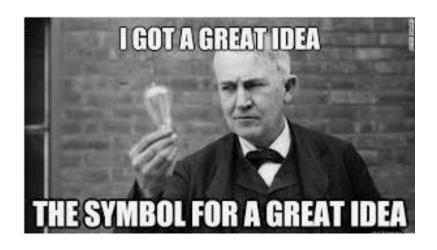






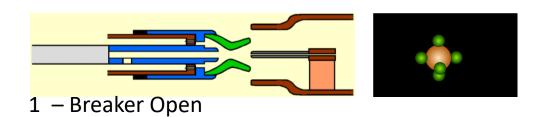
# Electric Transmission & Distribution SF<sub>6</sub> Coalition

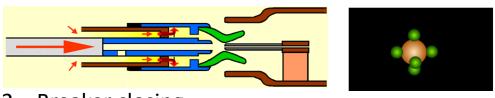
Why SF<sub>6</sub> gas is an excellent solution for GIE



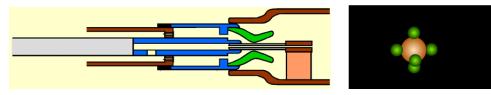
## SF<sub>6</sub> Gas in GIE – How it works



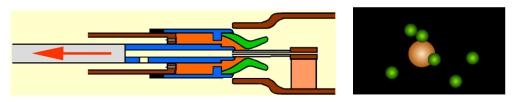




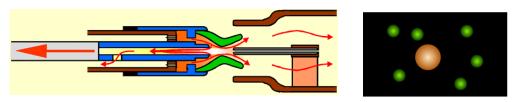
2 – Breaker closing



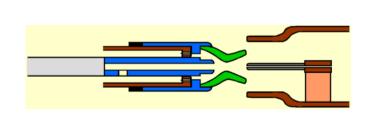
3 - Breaker closed



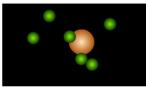
4 - Breaker Opening / Commutation

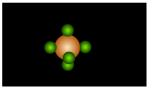


5 – Breaker Opening / Arc Quenching



6 – Breaker Open





## Electric Transmission & Distribution SF<sub>6</sub> Coalition

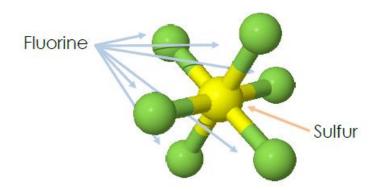
#### Overview of SF<sub>6</sub> reporting regulations





#### SF6 = Global Warming gas

- Not an ozone-depleting gas
- SF6 Global warring potential (GWP) = 24,000
- CO2 Global warming potential (GWP) = 1
- SF6 estimated lifespan = 3,200 years
- **CO2 estimated lifespan = 90 years**
- 1 Pound SF6 = 11 Tons CO2





#### **EPA** considerations

- Began investigating SF6 1997
- 2012 Mandatory reporting
  - for name plate capacity of 17,820 lbs
- EPA's online reporting tool
  - https://ghgreporting.epa.gov
- Additional information
  - www.epa.gov/electricpower-SF6





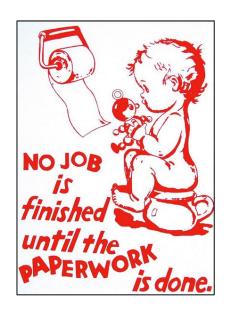


#### SF<sub>6</sub> Emissions Reduction Partnership for Electric Power Systems Name: EH&S Manager Name Company Name Customer Name Title: EH&S Manager Report Year 2015 Date Completed: Mar-16 Change in Inventory (SF<sub>8</sub> contained in cylinders, not electrical equipment) AMOUNT (lbs.) Inventory (in cylinders, not equipment) 1. Beginning of Year 5.844.08 2. End of Year 6,040.10 (196.02) . Change in Inventory (1 - 2) Purchases/Acquisitions of SF<sub>8</sub> AMOUNT (lbs.) Comments 3. SFs purchased from producers or 2,070.00 distributors in cylinders SF<sub>6</sub> provided by equipment 8,357.00 manufacturers with/inside equipment 5. SFs returned to the site after off-site 10.427.00 Sales/Disbursements of SF AMOUNT (ibs.) Comments 6. Sales of SF<sub>6</sub> to other entities, including gas left in equipment that is sold 7. Returns of SFs to supplier 343.20 8. SFs sent to destruction facilities 9. SFs sent off-site for recycling 3,551.80 3,895.00 C. Total Sales/Disbursements (6+7+8+9) Change in Nameplate Capacity AMOUNT (lbs.) Comments 10. Total nameplate capacity (proper full 910.00 charge) of new equipment 11. Total nameplate capacity (proper full 1,170.00 charge) of retired or sold equipment ). Change in Capacity (10 - 11) Total Annual Emissions lbs. SF<sub>6</sub> Tonnes CO2 equiv. (lbs.SFex22,800/2205) E. Total Emissions (A+B-C-D) 6,595.98 **Emission Rate (optional)** AMOUNT (lbs.) Comments Total Nameplate Capacity at End of Year PERCENT (%) F. Emission Rate (Emissions/Capacity)

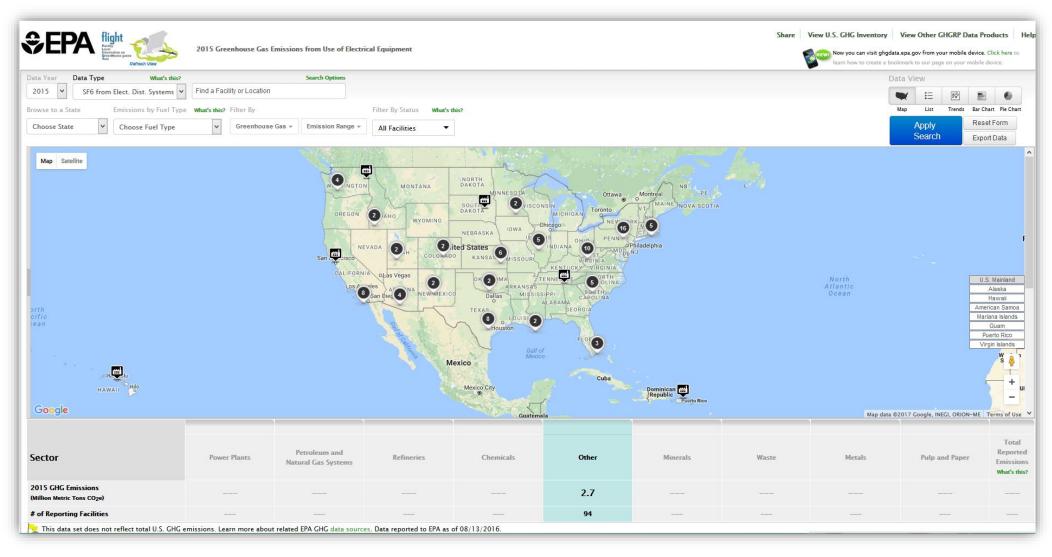
EPA Reporting is required every calendar year (due March/April of the following year).

#### What is required reporting

- Nameplate capacity of:
  - 1) equipment containing SF6 at the beginning of the year
  - 2) new equipment purchased during the year; and
  - 3) equipment retired during the year.
- Transmission miles (length of lines carrying voltages at or above 34.5 kV).
- SF6 sales and purchases.
- SF6 sent off site for destruction
- SF6 sent off site for recycling.
- SF6 returned to site after recycling.
- SF6 stored in containers at the beginning and end of the year.
- SF6 with or inside new equipment purchased during the year.
- SF6 with or inside equipment sold to other entities.
- SF6 returned to suppliers.





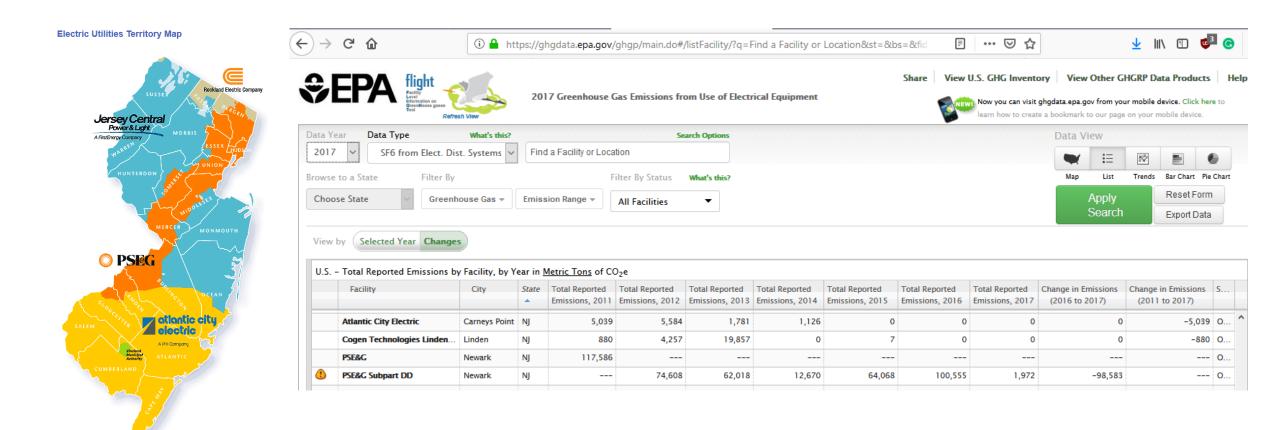


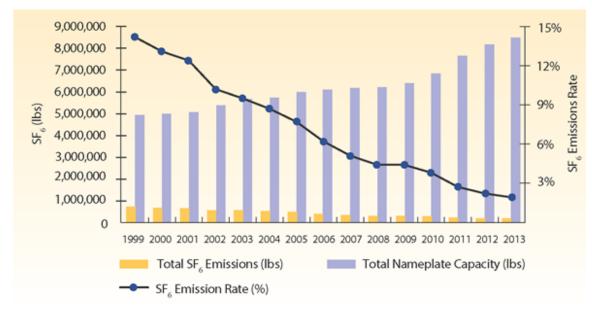


Not many reporters to the EPA in NJ.

http://www.njcleanenergy.com

However the trend illustrates a drastic drop in emissions through the history of the GHGR Tool.



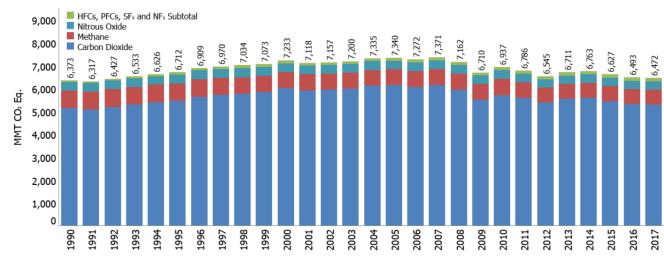


The annual average  $SF_{\theta}$  emission rate of Partners has decreased drastically since 1999. In the past five years, the emission rate has halved, from over 4 percent to just below 2 percent. Overall, the annual average  $SF_{\theta}$  emission rate for the Partnership is down approximately 87 percent from the 1999 baseline emission rate of 14.2 percent to 1.9 percent in 2013.

https://www.epa.gov/f-gas-partnership-programs/electric-power-systems-partnership

Responsible practices and processes, improvement in reporting accuracy and technological improvements with GIE & recovery systems and measuring equipment have contributed to great improvements.

Figure 2-1: Gross U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions by Gas (MMT CO<sub>2</sub> Eq.)



REF: Draft Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory Report – Released for 2019





State Regulations - Subarticle 3.1, Regulation for Reducing Sulfur Hexafluoride Emissions from Gas Insulated Switchgear sections 95350 to 95359, title 17, California Code of Regulations.

- CARB California Air Resources Board
- Goal lower annual emissions to no more than 1% by 2020
- Entity Name (Company, Corporation, Entity or agency)
  - CARB ID as assigned
  - Record location (site or plant name of reporting origination) Street Address, City, Zip Code, State
  - Name of the individual preparing the report Telephone, email
- Emission Reporting
  - Reporting Year
  - Annual SF<sub>6</sub> Gas emissions in pounds
    - User Emissions LBS = (Decrease in  $SF_6$  inventory)+ (Acquisitions of  $SF_6$ ) (Disbursements of  $SF_6$ ) (Net Increase of Nameplate  $SF_6$  Capacity of Active & Owned GIS Equipment)
  - Annual SF6 emissions in %
    - User Emissions % = Emissions (LBS) ÷ Cavg
      - Cavg = The average number of days a GIS is installed the reporting year.
  - GIS Serial Number, Type (bus, breaker, switch), Seal type (Hermetically Sealed or Not), MFG, MFG Date.
  - Cylinder ID (Serial Number)
  - Container size (capacity in lbs.)
  - Location of storage of each cylinder Street address, City, Zip Code and State
  - SF<sub>6</sub> Gas in each container.





Maximum Annual SF6 Emission Rate Calendar Year Maximum Allowable SF6 Emission Rate			
2011	10%		
2012	9%		
2013	8%		
2014	7%		
2015	6%		
2016	5%		
2017	4%		
2018	3%		
2019	2%		
2020 and each calendar year thereafter	1%		





#### **MassDEP**

- Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
- (GHG) –reporting rule
  - 40CFR part 98 and 310 CMR 7.71, et seq., respectively
- Control of Emissions from (GIS)
- NEW equipment purchased by MA after Jan. 1 2015, may not exceed a 1% emission rate.
- Must comply with declining all emissions to 1% or less by 2020

Maximum Annual SF <sub>6</sub> Emission Rate		
Calendar Year	Maximum Allowable SF <sub>6</sub> Emission Rate	
2013	3.5%	
2014	3.5%	
2015	3.5%	
2016	3.0%	
2017	2.5%	
2018	2.0%	
2019	1.5%	
2020, and each calendar year thereafter	1.0%	





Oregon Department of Environmental Quality

- Chapter 340, Division 215 GREENHOUSE GAS REPORTING REQUIREMENTS
- Investor Owned & Consumer Owned Utilities, electricity service suppliers and other electricity suppliers (with some specific exceptions for each type (consumer or investor owned) consumer-owned utilities) required to register and report under OAR 340-215-0030(6)
- Investor owned utilities and electricity service suppliers must determine SF6 emissions from transmission and distribution equipment, they own or operate pursuant to methodologies included in 40 CFR Part 98, Subpart DD with a modification to delineate emissions for Oregon. While EPA's protocols require reporting of the total emissions for all equipment owned or operated by the company, each company must estimate the emissions associated with their provision of electricity to Oregonians in their report to DEQ. Each company must do this by calculating the SF6 emissions based upon the portion of electricity they supply to Oregon end users. Companies must do this by first calculating the total SF6 emissions from all their transmission and distribution equipment pursuant to 40 CFR Part 98, Subpart DD, and then multiplying these emissions by the ratio of the amount of electricity the utility supplied to Oregon end users compared to the total electricity the utility supplied within its jurisdiction.











Washington State

- Washington State Department of Ecology & Wash Environmental Council
- City of Seattle
- Puget Sound Clean Air Agency

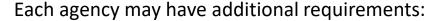
All have adopted and/or reference policies and regulations as set by the EPA. In some cases Carbon Taxes are issued to  $SF_6$  gas emissions based on calculations set by these policies and regulations. Each agency or local Environmental Agency enforces the policies and regulations as applicable to each region.

The state and the regional agencies are reviewing their policies. However, they have been reporting a significant reduction in emissions and improved management.



#### **EMERGENT GAS LOSS Rule & Regulation:**

- EPA
- CARB
- MassDEP
- Others
- a) A GIS owner may request emissions from an emergency event to be exempted from the calculation of the maximum allowable emission rate if it is demonstrated to the Executive Officer's satisfaction that the release of  $SF_6$ :
  - (1) Could not have been prevented by the exercise of prudence, diligence, and care; and
  - (2) Was beyond the control of the GIS owner.



- Location
- Event desription
- Equipment model, Type, Serial Number and MFG
- Amount of SF<sub>6</sub> gas emission





#### Electric Transmission & Distribution SF<sub>6</sub> Coalition

### What's being done to reduce emissions

- SF<sub>6</sub> handling practices
- Alternative Solutions





- What has been done:
  - Improved Accountability and Documentation
  - Training of field personnel to ensure zero loss during any gas handling event
  - Traceability of events including Emergent Loss events, leaking GIE, Repair/Replacement of leaking GIE.
  - Technological advancement of recovery equipment which allows for zero emission practices.
  - Scale calibration and Mass Flow Meter implementation
  - Self Sealing fittings that are zero emission
  - Improved leak detection processes
  - Cylinder accountability
  - MFG improvements of GIE with <1% annual leakage rates</li>











#### **Recovery Preparations**

Prior to starting the recovery process, the following steps and tests should be performed:

- Adequate sized recovery system: guarantees the most amount of gas can be recovered in a reasonable amount of time
- **Testing the SF**<sub>6</sub> **for arc by-products**: to determine the need for filtration and personnel protective equipment (PPE)
- **Testing the SF** for moisture: to determine the need for additional filtration
- Testing the SF6 for purity (Volume Percentage): to determine the need for makeup SF6 and possibly additional storage
- Connecting procedures: properly testing all hoses and fittings to eliminate potential emissions or contamination
- Proper Storage: ensure that a large enough storage vessel or an adequate number of in-test DOT cylinders are available
- Weighing device: ensure that a properly calibrated weighing device is used to prevent overfilling storage and that all the gas has been removed from GIE





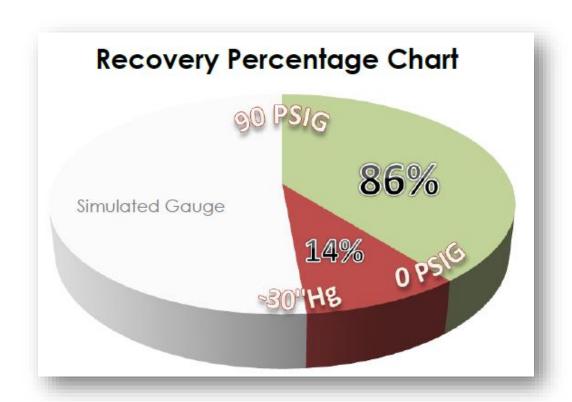






#### Understanding residual pressure

- Stopping the recovery process at 0 PSIG on a vessel with an operating pressure of 90 PSIG will leave 14% of the SF6 behind
- If the equipment was opened, the remaining gas would be permanently lost to the atmosphere.





All breakers are filled based on the required density per the application.

The use of a Mass Flow Meter during filling and/or calibrated cylinder weigh scales allow the operator to account for all the gas moved from a cylinder to a GIE or from GIE to a cylinder.







#### Alternative solutions



	SF <sub>6</sub>	Fluorinated nitrile (Novec 4710 fluid) + CO <sub>2</sub>	Fluoroketone (Novec 5110) + CO <sub>2</sub> or N <sub>2</sub>	Synthetic Air (80% N <sub>2</sub> + 20% O <sub>2</sub> )
CO <sub>2</sub> equivalent	~ 22,800	~ 380	< 1	0
Carrier gas	Pure or variable with N <sub>2</sub> , CF <sub>4</sub>	~ 90% CO <sub>2</sub>	$\sim$ 90% CO <sub>2</sub> with N <sub>2</sub> or O <sub>2</sub>	Not applicable
Boiling point	-64° C	~ -25° C	+5° C	<-183° C
Mean residence time in the atmosphere	3,200 years	30 years	16 days	-

Source: CIGRE Paper B3-108 CIGRE Conference 2016; Data sheet 3M™ Novec™ 4710 / Novec™ 5110 \*)

#### Note:

These are only examples of current alternatives being considered & tested. The market is evolving & continuing to add options for different voltages & fault duty.

Fault duty & continous current must be considered.

	CO2 equivalent	Carrier Gas	Boiling Point	Mean residence time in the atmosphere
Reconditioned SF6 Gas	~22,800	Pure or with N2, CF4	-64° C	3,200 years

A positive alternative that currently meets all the requirements & lowers overall foot print & contribution of emissions worldwide.

#### Alternative solutions

Electric T&D SF, Coalition

Conclusion to Technical Paper from Nov 2002 at the **International Conference on SF6 and the Environment: Emission and Reduction Strategies EPA workshop,** Technical Paper & Case Study by Solvay Flour, AGA Gas and AEP.

#### **Inventory Management**

- - ★ Control and track every pound of used SF<sub>6</sub>
  - Retain ownership until confirmation that gas was introduced in production stream, and
  - ★ Empty cylinders returned to point of origin and final weight recorded

#### **Summary**

- Viable program for reclaiming used SF<sub>6</sub> gas
- ▲ Logistics of the program tailored for US
  - Working with partners like AGA Gas

"The beneficial impact of the SF6 Re-Use program on global warming is evident"



#### **Conclusion**

Every pound of SF<sub>6</sub> taken back for reclaiming and therefore not released in the atmosphere is equivalent to an emissions savings of 22,500 pounds of CO<sub>2</sub>

"Another less evident, but equally beneficial impact to the environment as a result of the program is that the toxic decomposition products found in used SF6 gas are also not released."

### Electric Transmission & Distribution SF<sub>6</sub> Coalition

THANK YOU for the opportunity to present!
 New Jersey Clean Air Council Annual Public Hearing

Q&A

