

Dominion Says Renewable Gas Goal May Need \$1 Billion Investment 2019-08-07 17:08:31.127 GMT

By Naureen S. Malik

(Bloomberg) -- Dominion Energy Inc.'s goal to substitute about 4% of its natural gas supply with a renewable version could represent an investment close to \$1 billion.

The utility owner plans to rely on methane from sources like animal waste and landfills for 4% of its gas distribution by 2040, Judd Cook, gas business development adviser for Dominion, said at LDC Gas Forums' Rockies & West conference in Los Angeles on Tuesday.

Proponents of renewable natural gas, or RNG, argue that it offers the double benefit of replacing fossil fuels and using methane from livestock and landfills that would otherwise go straight to the atmosphere. Critics worry about leaks as methane is a more potent greenhouse gas than carbon dioxide.

Displacing 1% of fossil fuel with RNG would reduce the carbon footprint of Dominion's gas system by 25%, and so reaching the company's target would slash it 100%, Cook said.

"There is no better fuel source for heating homes, heating water or for fueling a vehicle than renewable natural gas," Cook said at the conference during a panel. "It's significant to get to 4%. We're probably talking about close to a billion dollars."

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