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Sent: Mon 22/03/2021 6:34:34 PM (UTC)
Subject: Politico story: White House, oil and gas industry meet to discuss climate change

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From: POLITICO Pro [REDACTED]@email.politicopro.com>
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Subject: White House, oil and gas industry meet to discuss climate change

White House, oil and gas industry meet to discuss climate change

By Ben Lefebvre

03/22/2021 02:03 PM EDT

Oil and gas industry officials are meeting with White House National Climate Adviser Gina McCarthy on Monday to discuss climate change and measures to cut methane emissions, according to two people with knowledge of the meeting.

Details: The White House reached out to the industry to discuss the new administration's goals on combating climate change and how the industry can align itself with those targets, the people said. Attending the meeting are members of the American Petroleum Institute and the American Gas Association, the sources said. The meeting was first reported by Bloomberg.

A White House spokesperson declined to comment.

Context: The gathering comes as the administration seeks to toughen regulations surrounding the oil and gas industry. President Joe Biden has pledged to reduce emissions of methane, a potent greenhouse gas that leaks from oil and gas wells, pipelines and other infrastructure the industry uses.

Large oil companies have backed the goal of reducing emissions as customers, especially in Europe, have started to balk at the greenhouse gas footprint of some of the fuel imported from the U.S. Smaller companies in the U.S. have fought previous efforts to crack down on how much methane their operations leak, however, saying the rules were too onerous.

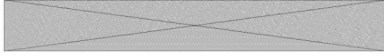
Besides the meeting with McCarthy, the administration has also invited oil companies and other stakeholders to discuss possible changes in how the Interior Department leases public land for fossil fuel development. Biden paused new leasing to review the decades-old rules that dictate which land is available for leasing and how much money companies pay the government for the oil, gas and minerals they extract from that land.

What's next: Interior has scheduled its forum on leasing for Thursday.

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