

19 May 2009

ADDENDUM

In March 2009, the IEA published the report *Coal Mine Methane in China: A Budding Asset with the Potential to Bloom*, which presented the current status of coal mine methane technology and policy development in China, with a focus on methane capture and use at medium-to-smaller mines. Since the publication of that report, it has come to our attention that a safety issue is in need of clarification regarding the transport and use of coal mine methane (CMM) at or near the explosive concentration. Methane concentrations in air between 5% and 15% are explosive and mine safety laws in most mining countries require that there should be a margin of safety for transporting and using gas to minimise the risk of explosions. National safety legislation in China does not allow for use of methane at concentration lower than 30%;¹ however, in practice, IEA field research discovered that some smaller mines are using this lower-quality methane.

The IEA does not endorse explosive-range gas transport and use; statements in the subject report should not be read as to support the use of gas in potentially dangerous concentrations. For more information about coal mine methane use and safety, visit the multilateral Methane to Markets Partnership site at <http://www.methanetomarkets.org/coalmines/index.htm>.

¹ Peoples Republic of China, *Coal Mine Safety Regulation* (updated 29 September 2006, effective 1 January 2007), Chapter 2. Ventilation, Article 148.