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Editor's Note: The version of the Build Back Better Act referenced is the one that passed the House of Representatives on November 19, 2021, and has not been passed by the Senate or signed into law

The Build Back Better Act, as passed by the House on November 19, 2021, imposes a natural gas tax, or methane fee, that could raise costs for American consumers, and cost the American economy as much as \$9.1 billion and as many as 90,000 jobs:

- **The Build Back Better Act would introduce a methane fee that could raise costs for consumers.** “Buried inside the ‘Build Back Better’ plan that cleared the House of Representatives on Friday morning is a new tax on natural gas production that will likely translate into higher heating bills for American households. The new tax is aimed at curbing methane emissions and will apply fees to companies that produce, process, transmit or store oil and natural gas starting in 2023. The specific fees will depend on where the natural gas is produced and will vary depending on how much methane is released into the atmosphere during the process. Overall, the Congressional Budget Office estimates that the new ‘methane fee’ will generate about \$8 billion over the next 10 years. The natural gas industry says that money will end up coming directly out of consumers’ wallets.” (Eric Boehm, “House-Passed ‘Build Back Better’ Plan Aims To Curb Methane Emissions by Hiking Heating Prices,” [Reason](#), 11/19/21)
- **Per the American Petroleum Institute, the methane tax included in the Build Back Better Act could cost the economy as much as “\$9.1 billion and as many as 90,000 jobs.”** “Perhaps most importantly, the tax in the House Energy and Commerce bill will generate significant costs and loss of jobs. The methane tax is a tax on oil and natural gas which could have harmful impacts on America’s economy and jobs. At \$1,500 a ton, the potential cost of the bill’s methane fee to the economy could be as high as \$9.1 billion and as many as 90,000 jobs could be lost.” (American Petroleum Institute, “[Methane Fee Opposition Letter](#),” 9/12/21)
- **The House approved Build Back Better Act included a fee reaching \$1,500 per ton on methane as of 2025.** “Language approved by the House represents a compromise that would slap a rising fee on excess emissions at oil and gas facilities, reaching \$1,500 per ton in 2025, along with \$775 million in subsidies for companies that take steps to reduce emissions.” (Matthew Daly, “Dems confident on methane fee as budget bill moves to Senate,” [AP News](#), 11/22/21)