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[Dave Boyer, Energy & Data Consultant | Cert. Petroleum Geologist](#)

Scott Tinker gave a great luncheon talk last week at the AAPG Eastern Section meeting.

One topic addressed to the audience -> You have to do better. Oil and gas are an essential part of the future energy mix. But without using best practices (and creating new better methods), you will lose your social license to operate.

Note Diversified Energy stock today -> down nearly 20% after Bloomberg published a hit piece on the methane emissions from their wells.

The social license to operate in North America is critical. Bloomberg may want the industry to disappear, but it is necessary to continue to meet energy needs. If operators can no longer produce in the USA, pumping of oil and gas will continue. Only it will come from countries with fewer regulations (more pollution) and have to ship it farther (more pollution).

ESG has been a buzzword across the industry for a couple of years and is hyped throughout IR presentations. However, without quantifiable changes, social licenses are at risk. As observed today with Diversified Energy, investors are paying attention.