

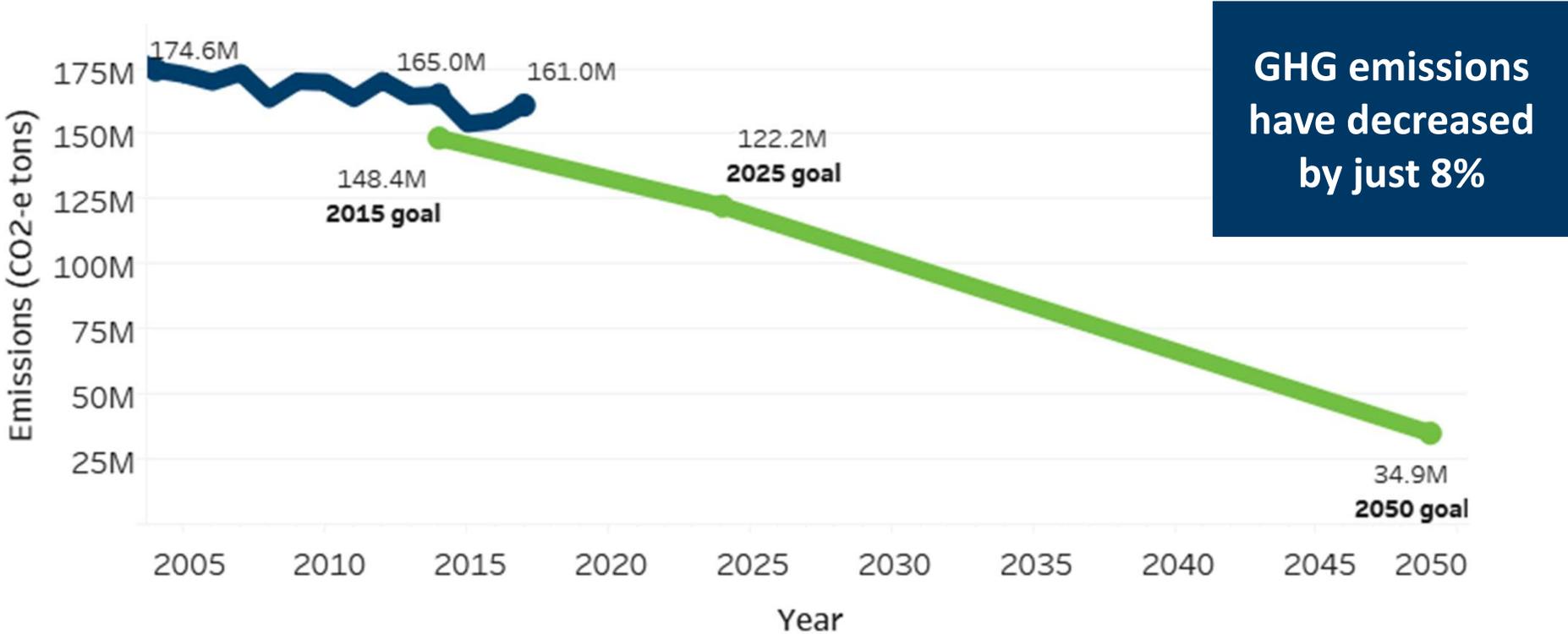


# Greenhouse gas emissions in Minnesota

Frank Kohlasch | Climate Director

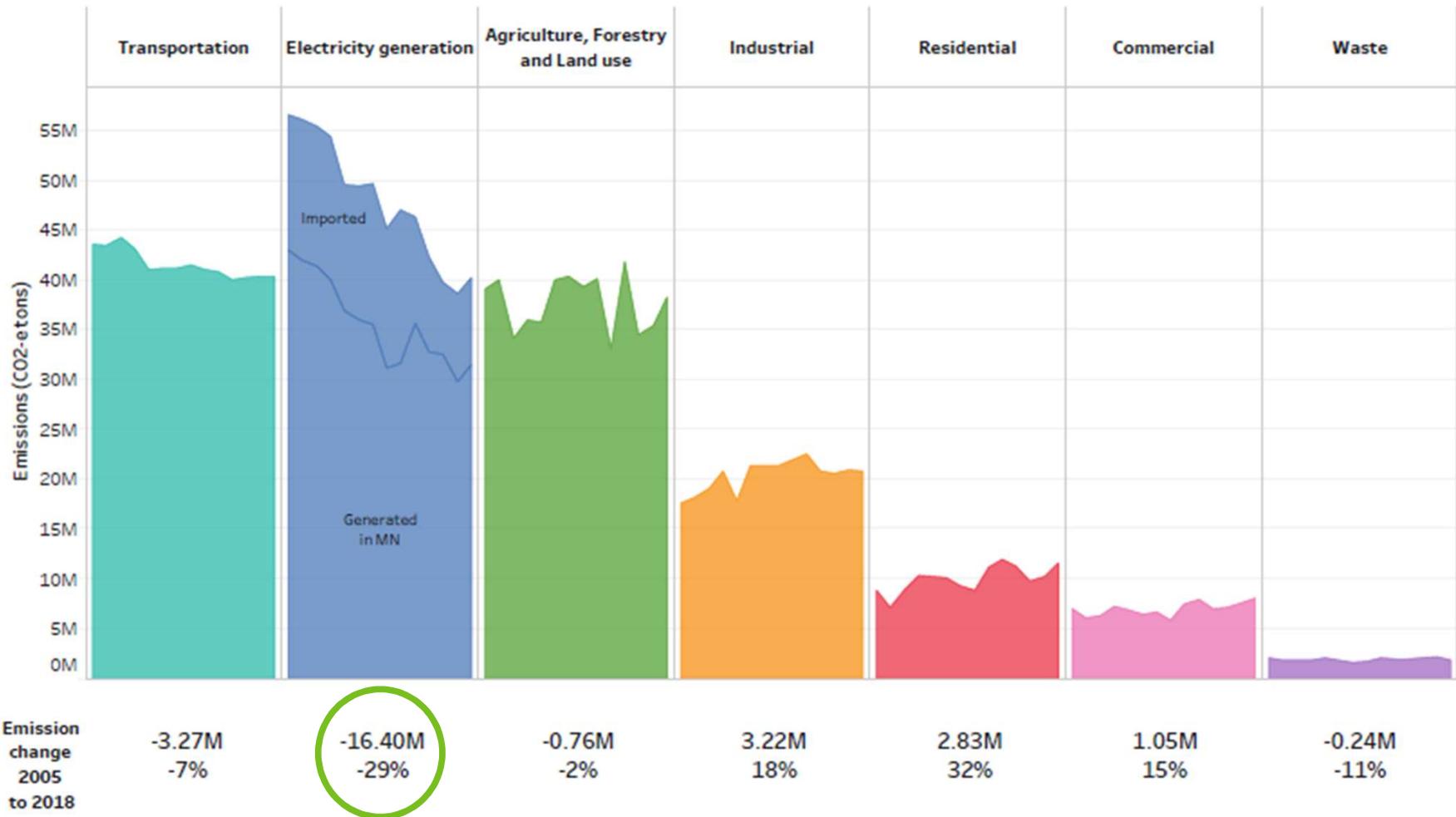
January 2021

# Minnesota is not on track to meet its goals



Minnesota's actual GHG emissions, compared to the Next Generation Energy Act goals

# Greenhouse gas emissions by sector



# Transportation

- Largest source of emissions
- Most in need of swift action
- Light-and medium-duty vehicles make up **more than half** of all transportation emissions





## Transportation



↓ 7% GHG emissions, 2005–2018

### Action needed:

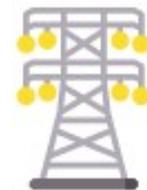
- Implement clean car standards
- Invest in cleaner fuels
- Expand Minnesota's EV charging network

# Electricity generation

- Close second to transportation sector
- Positive progress so far has been concentrated here
- Only sector that is on track to meet NGEA goals



## Electricity generation



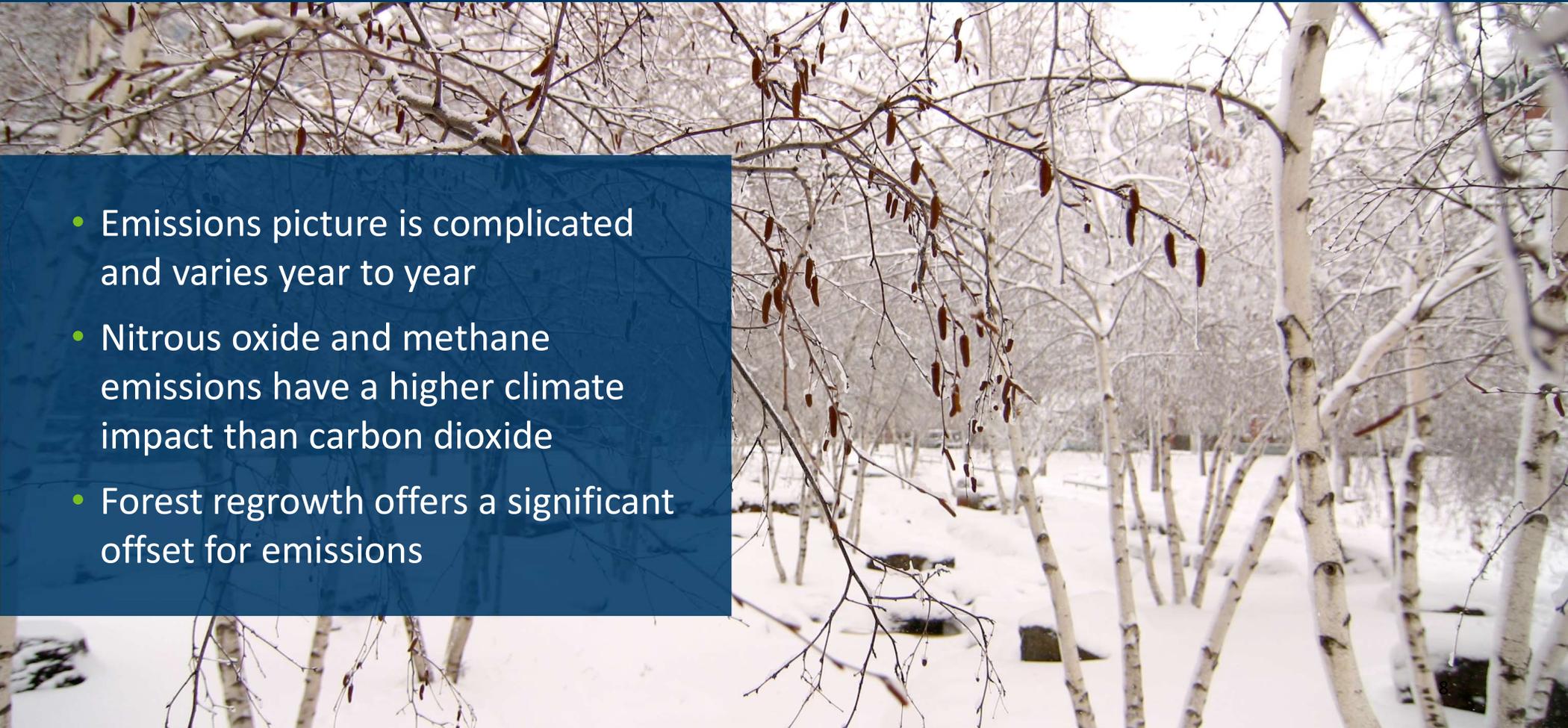
↓ 29% GHG emissions, 2005–2018

### Action needed:

- Adopt 100% Clean Energy by 2040 standard
- Adopt Clean Energy First policy
- Adopt Energy Optimization policy

# Agriculture, forestry, land use

- Emissions picture is complicated and varies year to year
- Nitrous oxide and methane emissions have a higher climate impact than carbon dioxide
- Forest regrowth offers a significant offset for emissions



## Agriculture, forestry, land use



↓ 2% GHG emissions, 2005–2018

### Action needed:

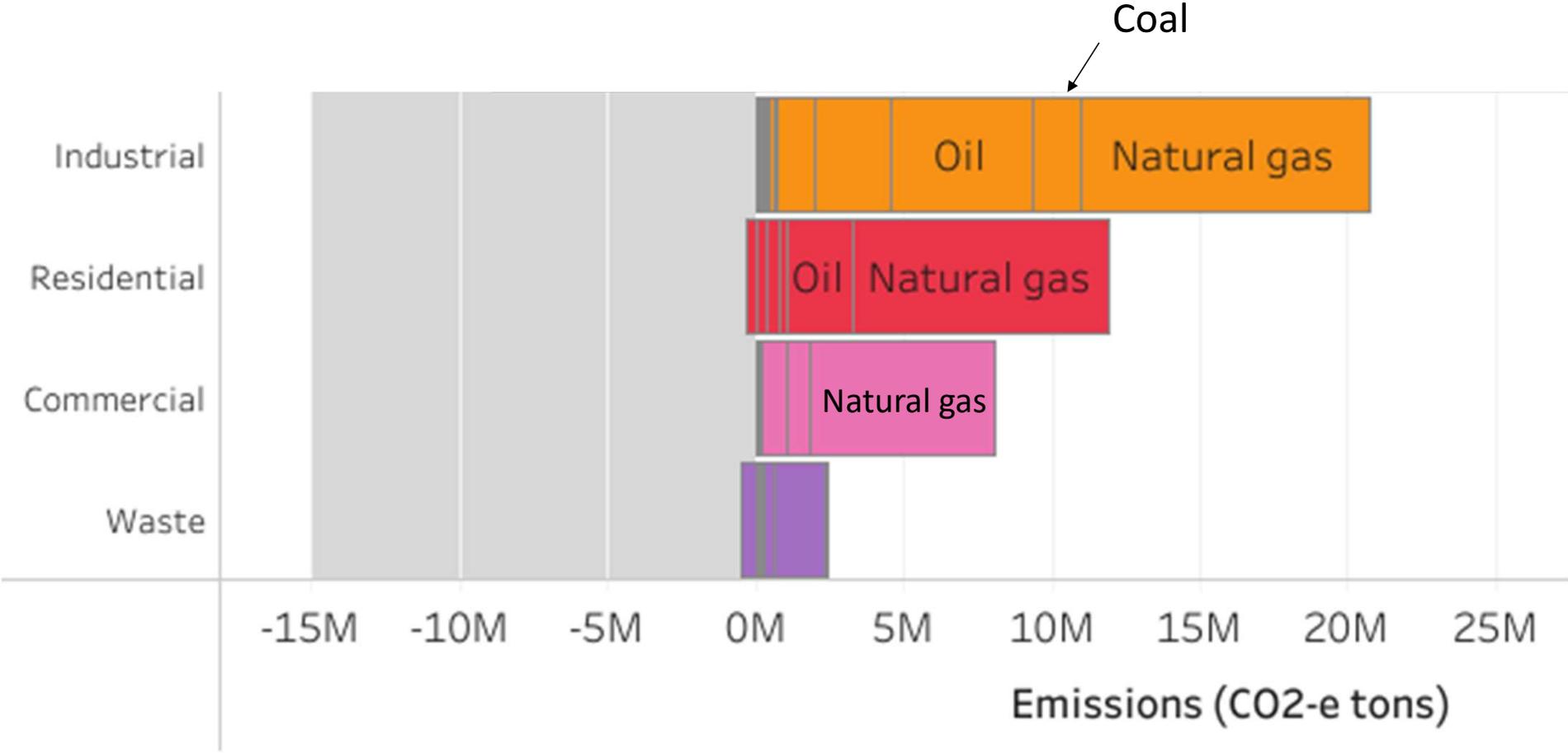
- Help farmers implement climate-smart practices
- Accelerate cover crop usage
- Protect Minnesota landscapes after major precipitation events
- Increase tree cover

# Buildings

- Fossil fuels used for heating buildings, industrial processes, and manufacturing
- Industrial processes can also emit GHGs directly
- Does not include emissions from electricity use in buildings



# Other emissions





## Industrial, residential, and commercial

↑ 21% GHG emissions, 2005 - 2018

### Action needed:

- Adopt carbon reduction goals for existing buildings
- Develop more energy-efficient commercial and large multifamily buildings

# One Minnesota Climate Vision

**Climate change is an existential threat that impacts all  
Minnesotans.**

Establish and accelerate policies that put Minnesota on track to meet or exceed our greenhouse gas goals and achieve greater resiliency in the face of climate change.

# Our path forward

- Accelerate the pace of progress, especially in transportation and our agricultural and forested lands
- Help Minnesota communities adapt and prepare



# Our path forward

- Expand our engagement with Minnesotans to identify ways to reduce our emission and address the existential crisis presented by climate change
- Leverage the work of multiple efforts to reduce emissions and build resiliency
  - Climate Change Subcabinet
  - Governor's Advisory Council on Climate Change
  - Governor's Council on Biofuels recommendations
  - Sustainable Transportation Advisory Council recommendations
  - Minnesota Climate Adaptation Partnership

# What questions do you have?

**Frank Kohlasch**

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