

Letters

# Methane Emission from Municipal Solid Waste Treatments in China

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## Methane Emission from Municipal Solid Waste Treatments in China

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**Abstract** The greenhouse effect of methane (CH<sub>4</sub>) is only inferior to that of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>). As an important anthropogenic emission source, the calculation of the emission amount of CH<sub>4</sub> from waste treatment in landfills plays an important role in compiling greenhouse gases inventory and in estimating the climate change effects caused by increasing of greenhouse gases. Based on the previous work, and according to the sampling and analysis on municipal solid waste (MSW) in typical cities, the degradable organic carbon (DOC) percentile was identified in typical cities in recent years. According to the IPCC greenhouse gases inventory guideline and default method of CH<sub>4</sub> emission from MSW landfills, and in light of MSW managing situation in different regions, the amount of CH<sub>4</sub> emission was calculated. The results show that the amount of CH<sub>4</sub> emission decreases geographically from east to west and it increases temporally from 1994 to 2004 in China.

**Key words** [climate change](#) [municipal solid waste](#) [methane](#) [emission](#)

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