Meet the team behind a first-of-its-kind controlled-release study

FluxLab Blog 2026 | Post 6

SIMFLEX-COAL is a first-of-its-kind controlled-release study, supported by the UN Environment Programme's International Methane Emissions Observatory (IMEO) through funding from the Government of Australia. It builds on knowledge gained from similar experiments that replicated emissions from landfills and a variety of oil and gas sources. Open-pit mines add a harder problem: area sources. Emissions spread across a large footprint are much harder to measure than those from a single point, because of the spatial scales and wide range of concentrations encountered in the real world.

A study like this depends on having the right team. The project team for SIMFLEX-COAL consists of FluxLab at St. Francis Xavier University and the Stanford Doerr School of Sustainability, who have collectively spent years organizing and operating large-scale controlled-release facilities for the waste and energy sectors (Brandt et al., 2026; Chen et al., 2024; Hossain et al., 2026; McManemin et al., 2026; Sherwin et al., 2023). We are also partnering with the Future Energy Exports Cooperative Research Centre (FEnEx CRC), an Australian-based not-for-profit organization that focuses on scaling up decarbonization projects in Australia. If you're engaging with us on this exciting project, here are the individuals you're likely to meet:



David Risk

Principal Investigator with FluxLab, St. Francis Xavier University, responsible for overseeing the study and its implementation.



Adam Brandt

Co-Principal Investigator with Stanford Doerr School of Sustainability, responsible for overseeing study design and science.



Pylyp Buntov

Engineer with FluxLab, St. Francis Xavier University, responsible for engineering design, instrumentation and technical management and oversight.



Chelsie Hall

Research operations manager with FluxLab, St. Francis Xavier University, responsible for contracts, logistics, reporting, and staff care.



Regina Gonzalez Moguel

Research associate with FluxLab, St. Francis Xavier University, responsible for stakeholder stewardship and delivery, study management, and science support.



Nadia Tarakki

Research coordinator with FluxLab, St. Francis Xavier University, responsible for facilitating communication and coordination with stakeholders.



Rafee Hossain

Engineer with FluxLab, St. Francis Xavier University, responsible for compliance and technical coordination.



Alyssa Macdonald

MSc student with FluxLab, St. Francis Xavier University, responsible for building knowledge around real-world coal mine emissions, to inform study design.



Audrey McManemin

PhD student with Stanford Doerr School of Sustainability, responsible for design and execution of the controlled release study, and modeling of methane transport.



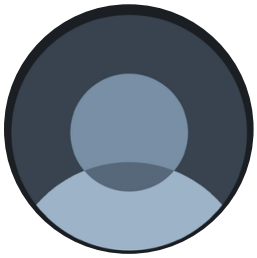
Eric May

Australian partner with Future Energy Exports and an expert panel member of Australia's Expert Panel on Atmospheric Measurement of Fugitive Methane Emissions, responsible for overseeing study execution in Australia.



Chenglong Li

Site engineer with Future Energy Exports, overseeing field-based engineering operations.



Bruce Norris

Australian partner with Future Energy Exports, responsible for co-managing study delivery in Australia.



Glenn Byrne

Australian partner with Future Energy Exports, responsible for co-managing study delivery in Australia.