

## **WHY WE ARE HERE TODAY**

Today ExxonMobil are holding their AGM. Two major shareholders, the New York Pension Fund and the Church of England, will be pressing the company to disclose the extent to which global action to tackle climate change will negatively impact the company's future earnings.(1,2) Their concerns are financial.

Today we are demonstrating to pressure ExxonMobil to do more than just reveal financial implications. Our concerns are humanitarian - the bleak future that awaits mankind through the continued, unabated use of fossil fuels. We are part of a global campaign to divest from fossil fuels. To date, \$5.5 trillion of assets under management have committed to a level of divestment.(3) Notable among them are Exxon's founding family, the Rockefellers!(4) Our contribution to this global campaign is to pressure the Church of England to divest from ExxonMobil.

We want you to understand why we are here, why, in our opinion, ExxonMobil is an unethical corporation and why we seriously doubt their commitment to tackling climate change. Here's why:

# Exxon are advising shareholders at today's AGM to reject the resolution for disclosure of how climate policy will impact the company.

# Exxon say (belatedly) they accept climate change is happening, acknowledge the threat it poses to humanity and support the Paris Agreement to limit temperature rise to below 2degC. Yet it appears they fully intend to exploit current reserves while actively exploring for more. To ensure that global climate remains stable and safe for our children, we need to keep more than 80% of known reserves of fossil fuels in the ground.(5) Exxon appear to exist in an alternative reality where, with ingenuity and adaptation, their strategy is somehow consistent with a habitable planet.(6,7)

# Science disagrees. Climate change is the greatest threat faced by humanity. Fully 97% of climate scientists agree that human activity is the greatest contributor to atmospheric warming.(8) They are as certain of this as doctors are sure that smoking causes cancer.

# Recent disclosures suggest that Exxon was already aware, in the early '80's, that unregulated burning of fossil fuels would result in dangerous climate change - but failed to take action to disclose their research publicly.(9)

# In 1988, the world received a wake up call when James Hansen (NASA climate scientist) testified to Congress. How did Exxon respond? Like other fossil fuel companies, they began funding climate denial organisations, casting doubt upon the very science they knew to be true. And they were immensely successful. It's estimated the ensuing doubt and confusion resulted in 25 squandered years - 25 years of inaction in confronting the threat. Did they choose profits over people?(9,10)

#Backed by leaked e-mail evidence, in 2015 the New York State Attorney General began an investigation into Exxon to determine whether the company lied to the public and investors about the risks of climate change. By March 2016, a further 20 States had launched investigations.(11)

## **Time to Act - Time to Divest**

**The renewable energy revolution is unstoppable (12)**

**Fossil fuels are history, if they're not - we are!**

1. <http://bit.ly/1bigloss>
2. <http://bit.ly/coferes>
3. <http://bit.ly/divestrill>
4. <http://bit.ly/rocksout>
5. <http://bit.ly/mostff>
6. <https://bit.ly/rexasks>
7. <http://bit.ly/6exxon>
8. <http://bit.ly/onefact>
9. <http://bit.ly/exxonew>
10. <http://bit.ly/wotifex>
11. <http://bit.ly/newyorkag>
12. <http://bit.ly/nostoprenew>

We are a coalition of groups and individuals concerned about climate change.  
<https://christianclimateaction.wordpress.com/2017/05/19/divest-exxon-day-join-us>

