Choose Director(s) with Environmental Expertise to Serve on ExxonMobil Board

Climate change expertise at both management and board levels is critical to companies’ success in the energy industry because of significant environmental issues associated with their operations. These impact shareholders, lenders, host country governments and regulators, as well as affected communities. Companies’ ability to demonstrate policies and best practices reflecting internationally accepted environmental standards can lead either to successful business planning or difficulties in raising new capital and obtaining the necessary licenses from regulators.

We believe ExxonMobil’s Board of Directors would benefit by addressing the impact of climate change on its business at its most strategic level by electing to its Board independent specialists versed in all business aspects of climate change. Just one authoritative figure with acknowledged expertise and standing could perform a valuable role in ways that would enable the Board to more effectively address the environmental issues and risks inherent in its present business model regarding climate change. It would also help ensure that the highest levels of attention are focused on developing environmental standards for new projects. In comparison, banks which had inadequate expertise on their boards to deal with risks related to new financial instruments and transactions often paid a huge price with a major impact on shareholder value.

Since the Exxon Valdez incident, the public’s perception of ExxonMobil represents a company with questionable environmental practices. For years some shareholders concerned about ExxonMobil’s approach to climate change have asked to engage directly with members of its Board; consistently they have been denied this access to dialogue on matters of critical concern regarding climate change.

RESOLVED, shareholders request that, as elected board directors’ terms of office expire, the Exxon Mobil Corporation’s Board’s Nominating Committee nominate for Board election at least one candidate who:

- has a high level of climate change expertise and experience in environmental matters relevant to hydrocarbon exploration and production, related risks, and alternative, renewable energy sources and is widely recognized in the business and environmental communities as such, as reasonably determined by ExxonMobil’s Board, and
- will qualify, subject to exceptions in extraordinary circumstances explicitly specified by the board, as an independent director.*

*a director shall not be considered “independent” if, during the last three years, she or he –
- was, or is affiliated with a company that was an advisor or consultant to the Company;
- was employed by or had a personal service contract(s) with the Company or its senior management;
- was affiliated with a company or non-profit entity that received the greater of $2 million or 2% of its gross annual revenues from the Company;
- had a business relationship with the Company worth at least $100,000 annually;
- has been employed by a public company at which an executive officer of the Company serves as a director;
- had a relationship of the sorts described herein with any affiliate of the Company; and
- was a spouse, parent, child, sibling or in-law of any person described above.