

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0533

Rex W. Tillerson
ExxonMobil
Chief Executive Officer
5959 Las Colinas Boulevard
Irving, Texas 75039-2298

December 7, 2015

Dear Mr. Tillerson,

As members of Congress concerned about climate change and the devastating effects it is having and will continue to have on our planet, we are alarmed by reports stating that Exxon (becoming ExxonMobil in 1999) hid the truth about the role of fossil fuels in influencing climate change and intentionally spread disinformation about climate science. Investigations by the *Los Angeles Times*¹ and *Inside Climate News*² allege that Exxon scientists confirmed fossil fuels' role in climate change decades ago, but top executives decided to hide the truth and instead embarked on a massive campaign of denial and disinformation.

An investigation by the Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS) has concluded that ExxonMobil was not alone in hiding knowledge of climate change while spreading disinformation about climate science. UCS concluded there was a “coordinated campaign of deception” on climate science by “ExxonMobil, Chevron, ConocoPhillips, BP, Shell, Peabody Energy, and other members of the fossil fuel industry.”³

The UCS investigation specifically found the following:⁴

- “Fossil fuel companies have intentionally spread climate disinformation for decades.”
- “Fossil fuel company leaders knew that their products were harmful to people and the planet but still chose to actively deceive the public and deny this harm.”
- “The campaign of deception continues today.”

UCS uncovered many internal company documents which appear to confirm a coordinated campaign of deception conducted by the industry to deceive the public of climate science that even their own scientists confirmed. These actions included “forged letters to Congress, secret funding of a supposedly independent scientist, the creation of fake grassroots organizations, [and] multiple efforts to deliberately manufacture uncertainty about climate science.”⁵

Given the information that has come to light from multiple investigations, we request that you answer the following questions:

- When did your company first become aware that using fossil fuels could result in climate change and warming of the planet?
- What did your company do with this information?
- Did your company fund organizations that denied climate change or sought to spread uncertainty about climate change?
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- What state or federal legislation to mitigate climate change has your company supported?

- Does your company support the science-based 2 degree Celsius temperature target to limit dangerous climate change?
- What is your company's business plan for reducing emissions consistent with this safe climate target?

Sincerely,



Ted W. Lieu
Member of Congress



Peter Welch
Member of Congress



Keith Ellison
Member of Congress



Alan Grayson
Member of Congress



Jared Huffman
Member of Congress




Michael M. Honda
Member of Congress



John Garamendi
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Matthew Cartwright
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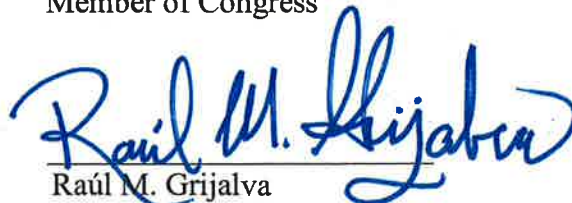
Luis V. Gutiérrez
Member of Congress




Katherine Clark
Member of Congress



James R. Langevin
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Raúl M. Grijalva
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Jared Polis
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Alan Lowenthal
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Mark DeSaulnier
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Jim McDermott
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Zoe Lofgren
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Karen Bass
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Steve Cohen

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Jan Schakowsky

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Ted Deutch

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John S. Watson
Chevron
Chief Executive Officer
6001 Bollinger Canyon Road
San Ramon, CA 94583

December 7, 2015

Dear Mr. Watson,

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Sincerely,



Ted W. Lieu
Member of Congress



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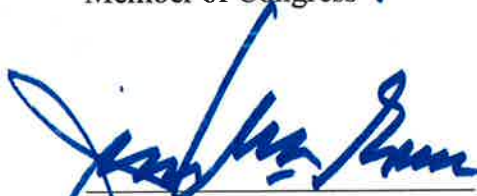
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Zoe Lofgren
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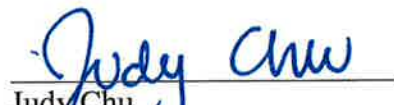
Karen Bass
Member of Congress



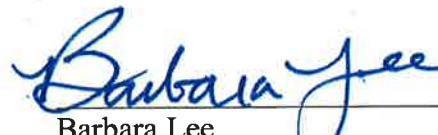
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Ryan M. Lance
ConocoPhillips
Chief Executive Officer
P.O. Box 2197
Houston, TX 77252-2197

December 7, 2015

Dear Mr. Lance,

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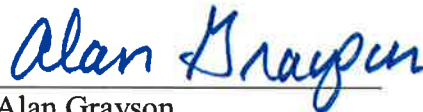
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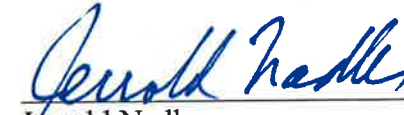



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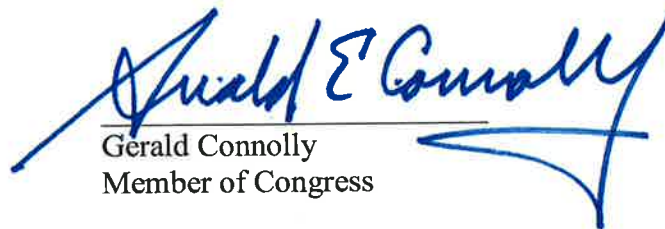

Paul D. Tonko
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Jackie Speier
Member of Congress

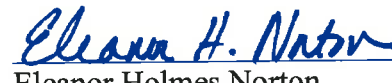

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Congress of the United States
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Robert Warren "Bob" Dudley
BP
Chief Executive Officer
501 Westlake Park Boulevard
Houston, TX 77079

December 7, 2015

Dear Mr. Dudley,

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The UCS investigation specifically found the following:⁴

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Sincerely,



Ted W. Lieu
Member of Congress



Peter Welch
Member of Congress



Keith Ellison
Member of Congress



Alan Grayson
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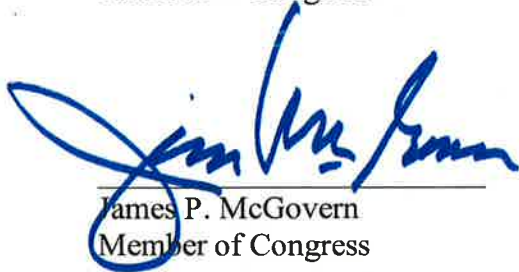
Jim McDermott
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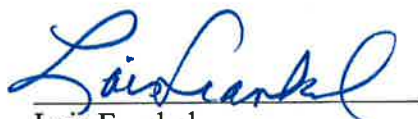

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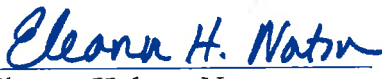

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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
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Glenn Kellow
Peabody Energy
Chief Executive Officer
701 Market Street
St. Louis, MO 63101-1826

December 7, 2015

Dear Mr. Kellow,

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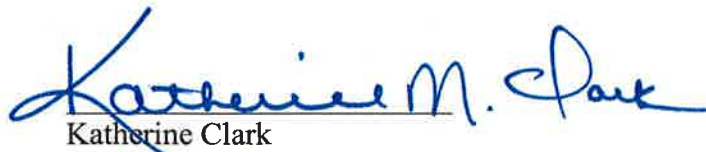
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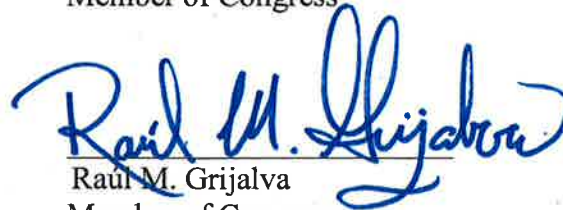
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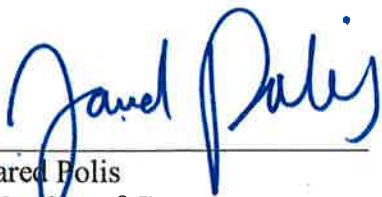
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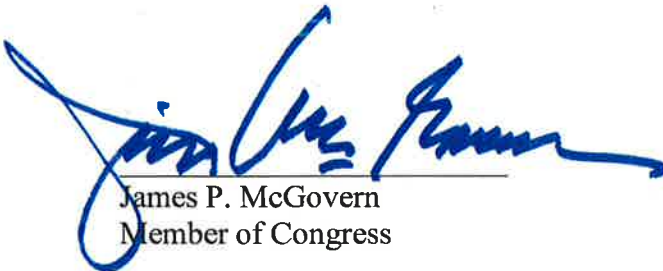
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Anna G. Eshoo
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Grace Meng
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Seth Moulton
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Jerrold Nadler
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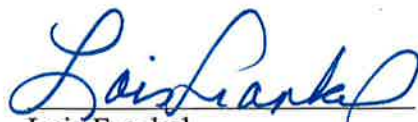

Jackie Speier
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Dan Kildee
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Carolyn Maloney
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Bonnie Watson Coleman
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Adam Schiff
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Betty McCollum
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Steve Cohen
Member of Congress



Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress



Ted Deutch
Member of Congress



David N. Cicilline
Member of Congress

¹ Sara Jerving *et al.*, "What Exxon Knew About the Earth's Melting Arctic," *Los Angeles Times*, Oct. 9, 2015 and Katie Jennings *et al.*, "How Exxon Went From Leader to Skeptic on Climate Change Research," *Los Angeles Times*, Oct 23, 2015.

² Neela Banerjee *et al.*, "Exxon: The Road Not Taken," *Inside Climate News*, Sep. 21, 2015.

³ Mulvey, Kathy, and Seth Shulman. "The Climate Deception Dossiers (2015)." 2015. Accessed October 25, 2015.

⁴*Id.*

⁵*Id.*

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0533

Ben van Beurden
Shell
Chief Executive Officer
P.O. Box 2463
Houston, TX 77252

December 7, 2015

Dear Mr. van Beurden,

As members of Congress concerned about climate change and the devastating effects it is having and will continue to have on our planet, we are alarmed by reports stating that Exxon (becoming ExxonMobil in 1999) hid the truth about the role of fossil fuels in influencing climate change and intentionally spread disinformation about climate science. Investigations by the *Los Angeles Times*¹ and *Inside Climate News*² allege that Exxon scientists confirmed fossil fuels' role in climate change decades ago, but top executives decided to hide the truth and instead embarked on a massive campaign of denial and disinformation.

An investigation by the Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS) has concluded that ExxonMobil was not alone in hiding knowledge of climate change while spreading disinformation about climate science. UCS concluded there was a "coordinated campaign of deception" on climate science by "ExxonMobil, Chevron, ConocoPhillips, BP, Shell, Peabody Energy, and other members of the fossil fuel industry."³

The UCS investigation specifically found the following:⁴

- "Fossil fuel companies have intentionally spread climate disinformation for decades."
- "Fossil fuel company leaders knew that their products were harmful to people and the planet but still chose to actively deceive the public and deny this harm."
- "The campaign of deception continues today."

UCS uncovered many internal company documents which appear to confirm a coordinated campaign of deception conducted by the industry to deceive the public of climate science that even their own scientists confirmed. These actions included "forged letters to Congress, secret funding of a supposedly independent scientist, the creation of fake grassroots organizations, [and] multiple efforts to deliberately manufacture uncertainty about climate science."⁵

Given the information that has come to light from multiple investigations, we request that you answer the following questions:

- When did your company first become aware that using fossil fuels could result in climate change and warming of the planet?
- What did your company do with this information?
- Did your company fund organizations that denied climate change or sought to spread uncertainty about climate change?
- Did your company oppose the Kyoto Protocol?
- What state and federal legislation to mitigate climate change has your company opposed?
- Did your company, or organizations your company funded, forge letters to Congress regarding climate change?
- Did your company, or organizations your company funded, secretly fund a supposedly independent scientist or scientists to deny or spread uncertainty about climate change?
- Did your company, or organizations your company funded, create fake grassroots organizations to deny or spread uncertainty about climate change?
- Did your company, or organizations your company funded, promote uncertainty about climate science?
- Is your company continuing to fund misinformation regarding climate science either directly or through third parties?
- Will you release your company's past scientific data and findings regarding climate change?
- Does your company believe the use of fossil fuels is contributing to global warming? If yes, have you made public statements to that effect?
- What state or federal legislation to mitigate climate change has your company supported?

- Does your company support the science-based 2 degree Celsius temperature target to limit dangerous climate change?
- What is your company's business plan for reducing emissions consistent with this safe climate target?

Sincerely,



Ted W. Lieu
Member of Congress



Peter Welch
Member of Congress



Keith Ellison
Member of Congress



Alan Grayson
Member of Congress



Jared Huffman
Member of Congress



Michael M. Honda
Member of Congress



John Garamendi
Member of Congress



Matthew Cartwright
Member of Congress



Luis V. Gutiérrez
Member of Congress



Katherine Clark
Member of Congress



James R. Langevin
Member of Congress



Raúl M. Grijalva
Member of Congress



Jared Polis
Member of Congress



Sam Farr
Member of Congress



Alan Lowenthal
Member of Congress



Mark Pocan
Member of Congress



Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress



Jim McDermott
Member of Congress



Zoe Lofgren
Member of Congress



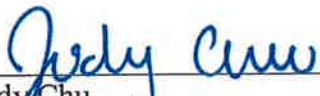
Karen Bass
Member of Congress




James P. McGovern
Member of Congress



Earl Blumenauer
Member of Congress



Judy Chu
Member of Congress




Barbara Lee
Member of Congress



Rosa DeLauro
Member of Congress




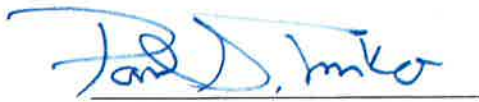
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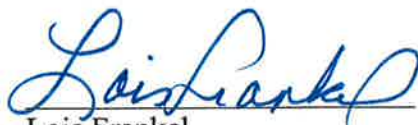

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