

**From:** Springer, Darren [Darren.Springer@vermont.gov]  
**Sent:** Friday, January 08, 2016 5:44 PM  
**To:** Joe Choquette  
**Subject:** Re: Exxonmobil [DRM-ID.FID823979]

Thanks Joe

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 8, 2016, at 5:07 PM, Joe Choquette <[jchoquette@drm.com](mailto:jchoquette@drm.com)> wrote:

Darren:

Following up on my earlier call and email, Exxonmobil is a member of the American Petroleum Institute, which I represent. Company personnel were obviously disappointed with the governor's call for divestment, and asked that I pass along the following information which provides the company's perspective. Please pass this along to the governor. Have a good weekend and we can follow up next week.

ExxonMobil recognizes that the risk of climate change is clear and warrants action. As a leader in its industry, the company is working to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in its operations, helping consumers reduce their emissions, supporting research and participating in constructive dialogue on policy options.

#### Activist Concerns

Allegations by media and environmental activists about the company's climate research are inaccurate and deliberately misleading. Activists have cherry-picked statements attributed to various company employees to wrongly suggest definitive conclusions were reached decades ago by company researchers. They ignored statements demonstrating that ExxonMobil researchers recognized the developing nature of climate science at the time, which mirrored global understanding.

#### Historical Perspective

ExxonMobil made no conclusions about the outcome of climate change nearly 40 years ago. It was however one of the first companies to seriously study the possibility of links between the use of fossil fuels and potential impact on the world's climate. With that said, even today the best minds in the world who work with the UN's most authoritative body on climate change – the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change -- have outlined a wide range of potential outcomes. We know looking back that the earth has warmed. But as the leading scientists have concluded, predicting the future is extremely difficult.

#### ExxonMobil Climate Change Leadership

ExxonMobil has supported development of climate science in an open and transparent partnership with governments and academic institutions for nearly 40 years. This includes funding climate modeling at MIT, development and commercialization of lower-emission solutions at Stanford University and working with the U.S. Department of Energy. This work has resulted in nearly 150 publicly available papers, including more than 50 peer-reviewed publications, and nearly 300 patents for cutting-edge technological advances in emissions reductions and other related applications. ExxonMobil scientists have been at the forefront of climate research and understanding and work with the world's leading experts on climate. ExxonMobil recognizes that climate risks are real and responsible actions are warranted. In view of the monumental scale of the world's need for energy, solutions are not easy -- they will take time, huge investments and thoughtful policies.

### ExxonMobil's Research and Development

ExxonMobil is a science-and-engineering based company who employs roughly 16,000 scientists and engineers. Over the years, it is these people that have spent countless hours working on research and development which has led to a broad portfolio of biofuels research involving algae and cellulosic feedstock. It was ExxonMobil scientists that developed the lithium-ion battery that is currently found in smartphones and is the basis for battery technology being used in cars. And today, the company is a global leader in carbon capture and sequestration.

**Joseph L. Choquette III** | External Affairs Manager

**Downs Rachlin Martin PLLC** | **Business Sense · Legal Ingenuity**

52 State Street, PO Box 1072 | Montpelier, VT 05601-1072

Direct: 802-225-5510 | Mobile: 802-793-7793 | Fax: 802-223-2460

[jchoquette@drm.com](mailto:jchoquette@drm.com) | [www.drm.com](http://www.drm.com)