

Remove Emissions Reduction Targets

Whereas: An alleged “scientific consensus”^{1 2} claims anthropogenically driven climate change will result in catastrophic impacts to the environment, to the planet, and to humans. However, research increasingly shows worst-case scenarios are unlikely, and the potential consequences of carbon dioxide emissions (aka “plant food”) have been greatly overstated.³

Corporate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction targets are usually guided by the Paris Agreement, which is heavily informed by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.⁴ These targets are neither legally binding nor legitimized by scientific evidence.

Hydrocarbons are reliable and cost-efficient. Renewable energy will not replace hydrocarbons in the near future, if ever.⁵ The competitors of ConocoPhillips Company (“ConocoPhillips” or the “Company”) are betting big on continued demand for oil and gas.⁶

Supporting Statement: ConocoPhillips has adopted greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction targets⁷ under the auspices of aligning with an activist-driven climate agenda, which lacks a basis in definitive, actionable science. The Company states that “the findings of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change that greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from the use of fossil fuels contribute to increases in global temperatures.”⁸ Further, the Company states:⁹

We acknowledge the importance that current science places on limiting global average temperature increases to below 2-degree Celsius compared to pre-industrial times, and to achieve that, current science shows that global GHG emissions need to reach net-zero in the second half of this century. We support the Paris Agreement as a welcomed global policy response to that challenge.

ConocoPhillips’s embrace of politically-driven climate alarmism will destroy shareholder resources both in the short and long run. The Company has only two paths to reduce greenhouse gas emissions: investing in carbon capture and storage technology, or reducing oil and gas production.¹⁰ CCS projects are unprofitable without government subsidies,^{11 12} which are unlikely to remain in their current form under the new presidential administration.¹³ That leaves

¹ <https://www.mdpi.com/2225-1154/11/11/215>

² <https://nypost.com/2023/08/09/climate-scientist-admits-the-overwhelming-consensus-is-manufactured/>

³ <https://judithcurry.com/2023/03/28/uns-climate-panic-is-more-politics-than-science/>

⁴ <https://www.ipcc.ch/sr15/faq/faq-chapter-1/>

⁵ <https://www.forbes.com/sites/rrapier/2024/04/26/us-oil-and-gas-production-are-ahead-of-last-years-record-pace/>

⁶ <https://www.alpha-sense.com/blog/trends/energy-mergers-and-acquisitions-boom/>

⁷ <https://www.conocophillips.com/sustainability/low-carbon-technologies/scope-1-and-2-emissions-reduction-activities/>

⁸ <https://www.conocophillips.com/sustainability/integrating-sustainability/sustainable-development-governance/policies-positions/climate-change-position/>

⁹ Ibid

¹⁰ <https://commissionshift.org/news/new-report-carbon-capture-sequestration/>

¹¹ <https://commissionshift.org/news/new-report-carbon-capture-sequestration/>

¹² <https://www.cnbc.com/2024/11/12/exxon-ceo-says-trump-should-keep-us-involved-in-global-effort-to-address-climate-change.html>

¹³ <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2024/nov/14/trump-clean-energy-climate-policies>

the Company with one path: reducing oil and gas investment. ConocoPhillips has always been an oil and gas company; Reducing production would destroy shareholder resources.

Contrarily, ConocoPhillips recently completed a \$22.5 billion acquisition of Marathon Oil Corporation¹⁴ – one of its largest competitors in upstream production – which signals that the Company does not take its emissions reduction rhetoric and actions seriously, as it plans to double-down on oil and gas production.¹⁵ If ConocoPhillips sincerely believed in the necessity of an energy transition,¹⁶ it would not stake its future on a massive long-term bet on oil and gas.

Resolved: Shareholders request the Company to remove all emissions reduction targets covering greenhouse gas emissions of the Company’s operations and energy products.

¹⁴ <https://www.conocophillips.com/news-media/story/conocophillips-completes-acquisition-of-marathon-oil-corporation/>

¹⁵ <https://www.conocophillips.com/news-media/story/conocophillips-completes-acquisition-of-marathon-oil-corporation/>

¹⁶ <https://www.conocophillips.com/sustainability/managing-climate-related-risks/strategy/plan-for-the-net-zero-energy-transition/>