

On Our Radar: Oil Shareholders Demand Fracking Disclosures

John Collins Rudolf | May 26, 2011



Bloomberg News

At an annual meeting, nearly a third of Exxon Mobil shareholders back a proposal requiring greater transparency by the company on the risks of hydraulic fracturing, or fracking. At Chevron's annual meeting, 41 percent of shareholders endorse a similar proposal. [Reuters]

Exxon's chief executive, Rex Tillerson, largely dismisses the concerns over air and water pollution from the oil and gas extraction technique, calling them overblown. "As often happens with these things, the early detractors slap a label on something and it takes a long time to peel it off," he says. [The Dallas

Morning News]

Britain's Freedom of Information laws are being used as a tool to intimidate and harass scientists and need to be re-worked, the president of the Royal Society warns. "It is essential that scientists are as open and transparent as possible and, where they are not, they should be held to account," says Paul Nurse, a Nobel laureate. "But at times this appears to be being used as a tool to stop scientists doing their work." [The Guardian]

London adds 150 new stations to its electric car charging network, raising the city's number of charging points to 400. City planners aim to install another 900 charging points by 2013. [Yale Environment 360]