



AS YOU SOW

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## **ExxonMobil Shareowners Deliver Strong Call for Fracking Data**

*Shareowner proposal receives 30.2% vote at today's AGM*

Shareowners today sent a strong message to ExxonMobil's board of directors that they expect the nation's largest natural gas producer to disclose comprehensive data on its hydraulic fracturing ("fracking") safety performance. The 30.2% preliminary vote in favor of the first-time resolution at Exxon's annual meeting demonstrates broad investor demand for hard data to assess the environmental and safety risks posed by Exxon's fracking operations.

"As today's vote makes clear, Exxon's shareowners have real concerns about the risks that hydraulic fracking poses to water supplies, local communities and the environment," said New York City Comptroller John C. Liu, who filed the resolution on behalf of the NYC Pension Funds. "It is now up to the board to provide data on Exxon's safeguards that will allow shareowners and other stakeholders to assess whether the company is managing these serious risks."

"Exxon is beginning to lag its peers in reporting on its fracking operations," said Danielle Fugere, President and Chief Counsel at [As You Sow](#), a shareholder advocacy group that filed the ExxonMobil resolution on behalf of the [Park Foundation](#). "Shareholders expect Exxon to lead the industry, but almost across the board Exxon is failing to provide the site specific information that shareholders, regulators, and impacted communities need."

The dramatic growth in the extraction of oil and gas from shale formations using horizontal drilling and fracking has been highly controversial. Concerns include that toxic chemical leaks, spills, and explosions could harm the health and safety of communities and the environment near drilling sites as well as contaminate the drinking water of communities both near and far. These concerns, which have prompted bans and moratoria on fracking in the U.S. and around the globe, create significant legal, regulatory and reputational risks for Exxon and its shareowners.

The resolution sponsored by the NYC Pension Funds and As You Sow calls on Exxon to provide annual data on its reductions in fracking air emissions per region per year; the number and type of community complaints or grievances it has received and whether the complaints are still open or resolved; its goals to reduce the use of potentially harmful chemicals in fracturing fluids and the systems it uses to reach those goals; and what it has done to both reduce its use of water and to protect groundwater from harmful chemicals.

The call for quantitative metrics is consistent with the U.S. Department of Energy's recommendations on shale gas production. The DOE recommended in 2011 that companies "adopt a more visible commitment to using quantitative measures as a means of achieving best practice and demonstrating to the public that there is continuous improvement in reducing the environmental impact of shale gas production."

**As You Sow** is a nonprofit organization that promotes corporate responsibility through shareholder advocacy, coalition building, and innovative legal strategies. For more information, visit [www.asyousow.org](http://www.asyousow.org).

**New York City Comptroller John C. Liu** serves as the investment advisor to, custodian and trustee of the New York City Pension Funds. The New York City Pension Funds are composed of the New York City Employees' Retirement System, Teachers' Retirement System, New York City Police Pension Fund, New York City Fire Department Pension Fund, and the Board of Education Retirement System. The New York City Pension Funds held 11,498,842 shares of Exxon (NYSE: XOM) valued at \$1,062,263,023.96 as of 5/28/2013.

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