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May 29, 2007

John L. Hennessy, President
Stanford University
Office of the President
Building 10
Stanford, CA 94305-2061

Dear President Hennessy:

I am writing on behalf of NRDC's 1.2 million members and activists to applaud the decision by Stanford's Advisory Panel on Investment Responsibility to support the shareholder resolution directing ExxonMobil to responsibly address its impact on global warming. This action, however, should only be Stanford's first step to prevent ExxonMobil from further exploiting its relationship with Stanford to counter legitimate criticism of the oil giant's irresponsible stance on global warming—the most crucial issue facing our generation. Stanford has the opportunity and the responsibility to take a clear and public stance against ExxonMobil's ongoing efforts to discourage or delay meaningful policy actions to reduce U.S. and global emissions.

NRDC paid close attention five years ago when ExxonMobil announced its grant to provide \$100 million for Stanford's Global Climate and Energy Project (GCEP). While we had hoped that ExxonMobil's grant might have signaled the intent by this powerful company to adopt a more responsible position with respect to policies to limit global warming pollution, instead ExxonMobil has continued its intransigent position of opposition to any real programs to limit global warming emissions—even as many leaders in the business community are now leading voices for strong policy action.

Stanford is one of the most respected institutions in the world and ExxonMobil has relied on Stanford's status and used its funding of GCEP, prominently featured again in its most recent Corporate Citizenship Report, as public cover for its many efforts to discourage or delay critical policy actions that are needed. Stanford has and will continue to make important contributions to both the science and technologies needed to solve this mounting problem before truly disastrous impacts become inevitable. I am sure you understand, however, how critical it is to adopt policies that will reverse the growth of emissions in the U.S. and globally without delay.

While Stanford stands for excellence and integrity in research, Exxon is the largest funder of organizations working to sow confusion among the public and policymakers about the causes and solutions for global warming. The enclosed reports cover in detail the many irresponsible actions by Exxon's funding and public relations arms over the past years. This issue is too important and too urgent to allow ExxonMobil to

40 West 20 Street
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use its partnership with Stanford and the uncertain promise of future technologies as an excuse for delaying significant corporate and policy action.

I very much hope and strongly urge you to take additional steps to publicly separate Stanford from ExxonMobil and its unacceptable campaign to undermine progress on the critical issue of global warming.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Frances Beinecke".

Frances G. Beinecke
President