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19 October, 2006

Neil [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Dear Mr [REDACTED]

Thank you for your letter of 6 October 2006 to Mark Nolan, in which you raise a number of issues concerning ExxonMobil. Mark has asked me to respond on his behalf, and in relation to your concerns, I would like to make the following comments:

ExxonMobil Financial Support

We were very disappointed with the misleading and negative comments made on the *Enough Rope* program in September, and with statements made by representatives of the Royal Society.

As the largest non-government petroleum and petrochemicals company in the world, we seek to play a positive role in the ongoing dialogue about the future of energy – one which is grounded in fact, focused on the long term and intent on finding viable solutions. With this goal in mind, ExxonMobil provides financial support to organisations that research significant public policy issues and promote informed discussion on issues of direct relevance to the company. These include topics such as international affairs, environmental issues and market economics.

However, it is important to point out that it is both false and misleading to suggest, as the *Enough Rope* program and the Royal Society have done, that in providing financial support to such organisations, ExxonMobil controls their views and messages.

ExxonMobil had no involvement with the Competitive Enterprise Institute (CEI) advertisement aired on *Enough Rope*. While it is true that we provided general funding support to CEI in 2005 as one of many free enterprise think-tanks in the US, we did not know about the advertisements until they aired, and we did not fund them. It is also worth noting that we have not provided any funding to this organisation in 2006.

We believe that groups like the Royal Society should welcome a diversity of views on all scientific issues, rather than malign different opinions. Taking the position that any person or group that disagrees with the Royal Society on an important scientific issue should be publicly vilified is surely counterproductive for the development of scientific theory, ignores freedom of expression and is hardly consistent with the Society's stated objective of promoting excellence in science.

Please refer to our corporate website (www.exxonmobil.com) for a full list for the think tanks and organisations to whom we provide financial support.

“Peak Oil”

I am pleased that you have already visited our website and read *Tomorrow's Energy*. We publish this long-range outlook report each year to publicly state our views on future energy trends, the risks of climate change, the prospects for promising new energy technologies and ExxonMobil's activities in these areas.

In this report we quite clearly state that demand for energy is growing, so much so that by 2030 we expect the world's energy needs to be almost 50 percent greater than in 2005. Most of this growth (approximately 80 percent) will occur in the developing world.

While we are confident that current global resources are sufficient to meet demand, we also recognise that access to resources and timely investments are vital to developing adequate energy supplies. Advances in technology, investment and supportive governments are critical to successfully meeting future energy supply and demand challenges.

We have already begun to look at technology options for the longer term, including carbon capture and storage, hydrogen generation technologies, improvements to internal combustion fuel and engine systems, and liquefied natural gas (LNG) transportation. We are proud of the work we are doing to investigate how we can meet energy needs in the long term.

Wall Street Journal Article

As stated above, we cannot and do not control the views and messages of companies that we are associated with, whether through financial support or as a client.

We refute any suggestion that it is our intention to warp or sway public opinion through false or misleading information, and we certainly do not regard such activities as acceptable behaviour. Our intention is to stimulate informed public debate that allows people to make up their own minds.

We are proud of our reputation and history as a transparent, responsible company that operates with integrity and honesty, and of the role ExxonMobil plays in meeting the world's energy needs in an economically, environmentally and socially responsible manner. The size, scope and nature of our operations often makes us a target for criticism, however I disagree with your assertion that volume is evidence of culpability. Thank you for giving us a chance to comment.

Yours sincerely



Samantha Potts
Public Affairs Manager