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16 *The County of San Mateo, individually*
and on behalf of the People of the State of California

17 **SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**
18 **IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN MATEO**

17CIV03222

19 THE COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, individually
20 and on behalf of THE PEOPLE OF THE
STATE OF CALIFORNIA,

21 Plaintiff,

22 vs.

23 CHEVRON CORP.; CHEVRON U.S.A. INC.;
24 EXXONMOBIL CORP.; BP P.L.C.; BP
AMERICA, INC.; ROYAL DUTCH SHELL
25 PLC; SHELL OIL PRODUCTS COMPANY
LLC; CITGO PETROLEUM CORP.;
26 CONOCOPHILLIPS; CONOCOPHILLIPS
COMPANY; PHILLIPS 66; PEABODY
27 ENERGY CORP.; TOTAL E&P USA INC.;
TOTAL SPECIALTIES USA INC.; ARCH
28 COAL, INC.; ENI S.p.A.; ENI OIL & GAS

Case No.

COMPLAINT FOR:

1. PUBLIC NUISANCE ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA;
2. PUBLIC NUISANCE;
3. STRICT LIABILITY – FAILURE TO WARN;
4. STRICT LIABILITY – DESIGN DEFECT;
5. PRIVATE NUISANCE;
6. NEGLIGENCE;
7. NEGLIGENCE – FAILURE TO WARN; and
8. TRESPASS.

JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

FILED
SAN MATEO COUNTY

JUL 17 2017

CLERK of the Superior Court
[Signature]

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CMP
Complaint
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FILE VIA FAX

1 INC.; RIO TINTO PLC; RIO TINTO LTD.;
2 RIO TINTO ENERGY AMERICA INC.; RIO
3 TINTO MINERALS, INC.; RIO TINTO
4 SERVICES INC.; STATOIL ASA;
5 ANADARKO PETROLEUM CORP.;
6 OCCIDENTAL PETROLEUM CORP.;
7 OCCIDENTAL CHEMICAL CORP.; REPSOL
8 S.A.; REPSOL ENERGY NORTH AMERICA
9 CORP.; REPSOL TRADING USA CORP.;
10 MARATHON OIL COMPANY; MARATHON
11 OIL CORPORATION; MARATHON
12 PETROLEUM CORP.; HESS CORP.; DEVON
13 ENERGY CORP.; DEVON ENERGY
14 PRODUCTION COMPANY, L.P.; ENCANA
15 CORP.; APACHE CORP.; and DOES 1
16 through 100, inclusive,

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Defendants.

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1 **I. INTRODUCTION**

2 1. Defendants, major corporate members of the fossil fuel industry, have known for
3 nearly a half century that unrestricted production and use of their fossil fuel products create
4 greenhouse gas pollution that warms the planet and changes our climate. They have known for
5 decades that those impacts could be catastrophic and that only a narrow window existed to take
6 action before the consequences would not be reversible. They have nevertheless engaged in a
7 coordinated, multi-front effort to conceal and deny their own knowledge of those threats, discredit
8 the growing body of publicly available scientific evidence, and persistently create doubt in the
9 minds of customers, consumers, regulators, the media, journalists, teachers, and the public about
10 the reality and consequences of the impacts of their fossil fuel pollution. At the same time,
11 Defendants have promoted and profited from a massive increase in the extraction and consumption
12 of oil, coal, and natural gas, which has in turn caused an enormous, foreseeable, and avoidable
13 increase in global greenhouse gas pollution and a concordant increase in the concentration of
14 greenhouse gases,¹ particularly carbon dioxide (“CO₂”) and methane, in the Earth’s atmosphere.
15 Those disruptions of the Earth’s otherwise balanced carbon cycle have substantially contributed
16 to a wide range of dire climate-related effects, including global warming, rising atmospheric and
17 ocean temperatures, ocean acidification, melting polar ice caps and glaciers, more extreme and
18 volatile weather, and sea level rise.² Plaintiffs, the People of the State of California and San Mateo
19 County,³ along with the County’s residents, taxpayers, and infrastructure, suffer the consequences.

20 2. Defendants are vertically integrated extractors, producers, refiners, manufacturers,
21 distributors, promoters, marketers, and sellers of fossil fuel products. Decades of scientific
22 research show that pollution from the production and use of Defendants’ fossil fuel products plays
23

24 ¹ As used in this Complaint, “greenhouse gases” refers collectively to carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide.
25 Where a source refers to a specific gas or gases, or when a process relates only to a specific gas or gases, this
26 Complaint refers to them by name.

26 ² Exhibit A, attached to this Complaint, is a timeline highlighting information alleged in the paragraphs below. The
27 timeline illustrates what the fossil fuel companies knew, when they knew it, and what they failed to do to prevent the
28 environmental effects that are now imposing real costs on people and communities around the country. The
information comes from key industry documents and other sources.

³ As used in this Complaint, “San Mateo County” refers to all areas within the geographic boundaries of the County,
including incorporated towns and cities.

1 a direct and substantial role in the unprecedented rise in emissions of greenhouse gas pollution and
2 increased atmospheric CO₂ concentrations since the mid-20th century. This dramatic increase in
3 atmospheric CO₂ and other greenhouse gases is the main driver of the gravely dangerous changes
4 occurring to the global climate.

5 3. Anthropogenic (human-caused) greenhouse gas pollution, primarily in the form of
6 CO₂, is far and away the dominant cause of global warming and sea level rise.⁴ The primary source
7 of this pollution is the extraction, production and consumption of coal, oil, and natural gas, referred
8 to collectively in this Complaint as “fossil fuel products.”⁵

9 4. The rate at which Defendants have extracted and sold fossil fuel products has
10 exploded since the Second World War, as have emissions from those products. The substantial
11 majority of all greenhouse gas emissions in history has occurred since the 1950s, a period known
12 as the “Great Acceleration.”⁶ About three quarters of all industrial CO₂ emissions in history have
13 occurred since the 1960s,⁷ and more than half have occurred since the late 1980s.⁸ The annual rate
14 of CO₂ emissions from production, consumption and use of fossil fuels has increased by more than
15 60% since 1990.⁹

16 5. Defendants have known for nearly 50 years that greenhouse gas pollution from their
17 fossil fuel products has a significant impact on the Earth’s climate and sea levels. Defendants’
18 awareness of the negative implications of their own behavior corresponds almost exactly with the
19 Great Acceleration, and with skyrocketing greenhouse gas emissions. With that knowledge,

21 ⁴See IPCC, 2014: Climate Change 2014: Synthesis Report. Contribution of Working Groups I, II and III to the Fifth
22 Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change [Core Writing Team, R.K. Pachauri and L.A.
Meyer (eds.)]. IPCC, Geneva, Switzerland. Page 6, Figure SMP.3, <https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar5/syr/>.

23 ⁵ See C. Le Quéré et al., Global Carbon Budget 2016, *Earth Syst. Sci. Data* 8, 632 (2016), [http://www.earth-syst-sci-](http://www.earth-syst-sci-data.net/8/605/2016/)
24 [data.net/8/605/2016/](http://www.earth-syst-sci-data.net/8/605/2016/). Cumulative emissions since the beginning of the industrial revolution to 2015 were 413 GtC
attributable to fossil fuels, and 190 GtC attributable to land use change. *Id.* Global CO₂ emissions from fossil fuels
and industry remained nearly constant at 9.9 GtC in 2015, distributed among coal (41 %), oil (34 %), gas (19 %),
cement (5.6 %), and gas flaring (0.7 %). *Id.* at 629.

25 ⁶ Will Steffen et al., The Trajectory of the Anthropocene: The Great Acceleration (2015),
<http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/2053019614564785>.

26 ⁷ R. J. Andres et al., A synthesis of carbon dioxide emissions from fossil-fuel combustion, *Biogeosciences*, 9, 1851
(2012), <http://www.biogeosciences.net/9/1845/2012/>.

27 ⁸ R. J. Andres et al., A synthesis of carbon dioxide emissions from fossil-fuel combustion, *Biogeosciences*, 9, 1851
(2012), <http://www.biogeosciences.net/9/1845/2012/>.

28 ⁹ C. Le Quéré et al., Global Carbon Budget 2016, *Earth Syst. Sci. Data* 8, 630 (2016), [http://www.earth-syst-sci-](http://www.earth-syst-sci-data.net/8/605/2016/)
[data.net/8/605/2016/](http://www.earth-syst-sci-data.net/8/605/2016/).

1 Defendants took steps to protect their own assets from these threats through immense internal
2 investment in research, infrastructure improvements, and plans to exploit new opportunities in a
3 warming world.

4 6. Instead of working to reduce the use and combustion of fossil fuel products, lower
5 the rate of greenhouse gas emissions, minimize the damage associated with continued high use
6 and combustion of such products, and ease the transition to a lower carbon economy, Defendants
7 concealed the dangers, sought to undermine public support for greenhouse gas regulation, and
8 engaged in massive campaigns to promote the ever-increasing use of their products at ever greater
9 volumes. Thus, each Defendant's conduct has contributed substantially to the buildup of CO₂ in
10 the environment that drives sea level rise.

11 7. Defendants are directly responsible for 227.6 gigatons of CO₂ emissions between
12 1965 and 2015, representing 20.3% of total emissions of that potent greenhouse gas during that
13 period. Accordingly, Defendants are directly responsible for a substantial portion of committed
14 sea level rise (that is, sea level rise that will occur even in the absence of any future emissions)
15 because of the consumption of their fossil fuel products.

16 8. Extreme flooding events will more than double in frequency on California's Pacific
17 coast by 2050.¹⁰ Flooding and storms will become more frequent and more severe, and average
18 sea level will rise substantially along California's coast, and in the San Francisco Bay Area
19 including San Mateo County. The County, bordered on two sides by water and among the most
20 vulnerable counties to sea level rise in California, has already spent millions of dollars to study
21 and mitigate the effects of global warming. Sea level rise already adversely affects the County and
22 jeopardizes San Mateo's sewer systems, beaches, parks, roads, civil infrastructure, and essential
23 public services, and communities.

24
25
26 ¹⁰ Sean Vitousek et al., Doubling of coastal flooding frequency within decades due to sea-level rise, Scientific
27 Reports, (May 18, 2017) ("Only 10 cm of SLR doubles the flooding potential in high-latitude regions with small
28 shape parameters, notably the North American west coast (including the major population centers Vancouver,
Seattle, San Francisco, and Los Angeles), and the European Atlantic coast."); USGS, In Next Decades, Frequency of
Coastal Flooding Will Double Globally (May 18, 2017), <https://www.usgs.gov/news/next-decades-frequency-coastal-flooding-will-double-globally>.

1 9. Defendants’ production, promotion, marketing, and use of fossil fuel products,
2 simultaneous concealment of the known hazards of those products, and their championing of anti-
3 regulation and anti-science campaigns, actually and proximately caused Plaintiffs’ injuries.

4 10. Accordingly, the County brings claims against Defendants for Public Nuisance on
5 behalf of the People of California as well as itself, Strict Liability for Failure to Warn, Strict
6 Liability for Design Defect, Private Nuisance, Negligence, Negligent Failure to Warn,
7 and Trespass.

8 11. By this action, the County seeks to ensure that the parties responsible for sea level
9 rise bear the costs of its impacts on the County, rather than Plaintiffs, local taxpayers or residents.

10 **II. PARTIES**

11 **A. Plaintiffs**

12 12. Plaintiff, the People of the State of California (“the People”), by and through the
13 County Counsel of San Mateo County, brings this suit pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure section
14 731, and Civil Code sections 3479, 3480, 3491, and 3494, to abate the nuisance caused by sea
15 level rise in the County’s jurisdiction.

16 13. Plaintiff County of San Mateo (“the County” or “San Mateo”) is a political
17 subdivision of the State of California. The County is located in the San Francisco Bay Area on the
18 central portion of the San Francisco Peninsula, with its county seat in Redwood City.

19 a. The County is bordered by water on two sides, with the San Francisco Bay
20 to the East, and the Pacific Ocean to the West, and contains approximately 109 total miles of
21 ocean-and bay-adjacent coastline.

22 b. Sea level has already risen significantly along both the County’s ocean side
23 and bay side. The County anticipates and is planning for significant sea level rise over 1992 levels
24 by the year 2100,¹¹ and the State of California projects possible sea level rise well above the
25
26

27 ¹¹ County of San Mateo, Sea Level Rise Vulnerability Assessment, Public Draft, p. 26 (April 2017),
28 <http://seachangesmc.com/current-efforts/vulnerability-assessment/>.

County's estimates in that same period under a "business-as-usual" emissions scenario.¹²

c. The sea level rise impacts on the County associated with an increase in average mean sea level height include, but are not limited to, increased inundation (permanent) and flooding (temporary) in natural and built environments with higher tides and intensified wave and storm surge events; aggravated wave impacts, including erosion, damage, and destruction of built structures, as well as natural features like cliffs, beaches and dunes, with consequent landslides; changes in sediment supply that could alter or destroy natural coastal habitats like beaches and wetlands, which would otherwise naturally mitigate sea level rise impacts; saltwater intrusion on groundwater aquifers, agricultural land, and infrastructure; and magnification of other climate change impacts, due to the superimposition on sea level rise on shifts in precipitation patterns that result in more rain and attendant flooding; increased frequency and severity of storms that cause erosion, flooding, and temporary sea level rise increases; and others. Compounding these environmental impacts are cascading social and economic impacts, which are secondary and tertiary injuries that arise out of physical sea-level rise injuries to the County.

d. Accounting for population increases over that time (by the year 2100), San Mateo is the only county on the West Coast with more than 100,000 residents at risk of three feet of sea level rise.¹³

e. The County owns and operates civil infrastructure including, but not limited to levees, stormwater and sewage transport systems, an airport, and roads. The County owns, leases and/or controls real property within its jurisdiction. Much of the County's infrastructure and real property is on or near the Pacific Ocean and San Francisco Bay coasts, and has already suffered damage from rising sea levels and will suffer increasing damage in the future through rising sea levels and through the exacerbation of natural climate phenomena such as coastal erosion and El Niño.

¹² Gary Griggs et al., Rising Seas in California: An Update on Sea-Level Rise Science, California Ocean Science Trust, p. 26, Table 1(b) (April 2017), <http://www.opc.ca.gov/webmaster/ftp/pdf/docs/rising-seas-in-california-an-update-on-sea-level-rise-science.pdf>.

¹³ County of San Mateo, Sea Level Rise Vulnerability Assessment, Public Draft, p. 29 (April 2017), <http://seachangesmc.com/current-efforts/vulnerability-assessment/>.

1 **B. Defendants**

2 14. Defendants' are responsible for a substantial portion of the total greenhouse gases
3 emitted between 1965 and 2015. Defendants, individually and collectively, are responsible for
4 extracting, refining, processing, producing, promoting and marketing fossil fuel products, the
5 normal and intended use of which has led to the emission of a substantial percentage of the total
6 volume of greenhouse gases released into the atmosphere since 1965. Indeed, between 1965 and
7 2015, the named Defendants extracted from the earth enough fossil fuel materials (i.e. crude oil,
8 coal, and natural gas) to account for more than one in every five tons of CO₂ and methane emitted
9 worldwide. Accounting for their wrongful promotion and marketing activities, Defendants bear a
10 dominant responsibility for global warming generally and for Plaintiffs' injuries in particular.

11 15. When reference in this complaint is made to an act or omission of the Defendants,
12 unless specifically attributed or otherwise stated, such references should be interpreted to mean
13 that the officers, directors, agents, employees, or representatives of the Defendants committed or
14 authorized such an act or omission, or failed to adequately supervise or properly control or direct
15 their employees while engaged in the management, direction, operation or control of the affairs of
16 Defendants, and did so while acting within the scope of their employment or agency.

17 16. **Chevron Entities**

18 a. Chevron Corporation is a multi-national, vertically integrated energy and
19 chemicals company incorporated in the State of Delaware, with its global headquarters and
20 principal place of business in San Ramon, California.

21 b. Chevron U.S.A., Inc. is a Pennsylvania Corporation with its principal place
22 of business located in San Ramon, California. Chevron USA is a wholly owned subsidiary of
23 Chevron Corporation.

24 c. "Chevron" as used hereafter, means collectively, Defendants Chevron
25 Corp. and Chevron U.S.A., Inc.

26 d. Chevron operates through a web of U.S. and international subsidiaries at all
27 levels of the fossil fuel supply chain. Chevron's and its subsidiaries' operations consist of
28

1 exploring for, developing, and producing crude oil and natural gas; processing, liquefaction,
2 transportation, and regasification associated with liquefied natural gas; transporting crude oil by
3 major international oil export pipelines; transporting, storage, and marketing of natural gas;
4 refining crude oil into petroleum products; marketing of crude oil and refined products;
5 transporting crude oil and refined products by pipeline, marine vessel, motor equipment and rail
6 car; basic and applied research in multiple scientific fields including of chemistry, geology, and
7 engineering; and manufacturing and marketing of commodity petrochemicals, plastics for
8 industrial uses, and fuel and lubricant additives.

9 17. **ExxonMobil Corporation**

10 a. ExxonMobil Corporation ("Exxon") is a multi-national, vertically
11 integrated energy and chemicals company incorporated in the State of New Jersey with its
12 headquarters and principal place of business in Irving, Texas. Exxon is among the largest publicly
13 traded international oil and gas companies in the world.

14 b. Exxon consists of numerous divisions and affiliates in all areas of the fossil
15 fuel industry, including exploration for and production of crude oil and natural gas; manufacture
16 of petroleum products; and transportation, marketing, and sale of crude oil, natural gas, and
17 petroleum products. Exxon is also a major manufacturer and marketer of commodity
18 petrochemical products.

19 c. Exxon does substantial fossil fuel product related business in California,
20 and a substantial portion of its fossil fuel products are extracted, refined, transported, traded,
21 distributed, marketed and/or sold in California. Among other operations, more than 540 Exxon-,
22 Mobil-, or Esso-branded gas stations operate throughout the state, and Exxon owns and operates a
23 petroleum storage and transport facility in the San Ardo Oil Field in San Ardo, Monterey County,
24 California. From 1966 to 2016, Exxon owned and operated an oil refinery in Torrance, Los
25 Angeles County, California. Exxon Co. USA, an ExxonMobil subsidiary, operated a petroleum
26 refinery in Benicia, Solano County, California, from 1968 to 2000.

1 18. **BP Entities**

2 a. BP P.L.C. is a multi-national, vertically integrated energy and
3 petrochemical public limited company, registered in England and Wales with its principal place of
4 business in London, England. BP P.L.C. consists of three main operating segments: (1) exploration
5 and production, (2) refining and marketing, and (3) gas power and renewables.

6 b. BP P.L.C. does substantial fossil-fuel related business in the United States,
7 by marketing through licensure; franchising its petroleum products in the U.S. under the BP,
8 ARCO and ARAL brands; and by operating oil and gas extraction and refining projects in the Gulf
9 of Mexico, Alaska, Arkansas, Colorado, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, and Wyoming.

10 c. BP America, Inc., is a wholly-owned subsidiary of BP P.L.C. BP America
11 Inc. is a vertically integrated energy and petrochemical company incorporated in the State of
12 Delaware with its headquarters and principal place of business in Houston, Texas. BP America,
13 Inc., consists of numerous divisions and affiliates in all aspects of the fossil fuel industry, including
14 exploration for and production of crude oil and natural gas; manufacture of petroleum products;
15 and transportation, marketing, and sale of crude oil, natural gas, and petroleum products. BP is
16 also a major manufacturer and marketer of commodity petrochemical products. BP America Inc.
17 is registered to do business in the State of California and has a registered agent for service of
18 process with the California Secretary of State.

19 d. Defendants BP P.L.C. and BP America, Inc. are collectively referred to
20 herein as "BP."

21 e. BP does substantial fossil fuel product-related business in California, and a
22 substantial portion of its fossil fuel products are extracted, refined, transported, traded, distributed,
23 marketed, and/or sold in California. Among other operations, BP operates 275 ARCO-licensed
24 and branded gas stations in California and more than 70 compressed natural gas and liquefied
25 natural gas fueling stations, provides natural gas used to power more than 6.9 million California
26 households, and distributes and markets petroleum-based lubricants marketed under the "Castrol"
27 brand name throughout the state. From 2000 to 2013, BP also owned and operated an oil refinery
28 in Carson, Los Angeles County, California. BP's marketing and trading business maintains an

1 office in Irvine, Orange County, California. BP maintains an energy research center in San Diego,
2 San Diego County, California.

3 19. **Shell Entities**

4 a. Royal Dutch Shell PLC is a vertically integrated, multinational energy and
5 petrochemical company. Royal Dutch Shell is incorporated in England and Wales, with its
6 headquarters and principle place of business in the Hague, Netherlands. Royal Dutch Shell PLC
7 consists of numerous divisions, subsidiaries and affiliates engaged in all aspects of the fossil fuel
8 industry, including exploration, development, extraction, manufacturing and energy production,
9 transport, trading, marketing and sales.

10 b. Shell Oil Products Company LLC is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Royal
11 Dutch Shell PLC. Shell Oil Products Company LLC is incorporated in the State of Delaware and
12 maintains its principal place of business in Houston, Texas. Shell Oil Products Company LLC is
13 registered to do business in the State of California and has a registered agent for service of process
14 in California. Shell Oil Products Company LLC is an energy and petrochemical company involved
15 in refining, transportation, distribution and marketing of Shell fossil fuel products.

16 c. Defendants Royal Dutch Shell PLC and Shell Oil Products Company LLC
17 are collectively referred to as "Shell."

18 d. Shell does substantial fossil fuel product-related business in California, and
19 a substantial portion of its fossil fuel products are extracted, refined, transported, traded,
20 distributed, marketed and/or sold in California. Among other endeavors, Shell operates a
21 petroleum refinery in Martinez, Contra Costa County, California; operates a distribution center in
22 Carson, California; and produces heavy oil and natural gas within the state. Shell also owned and
23 operated a refinery in Wilmington (Los Angeles), Los Angeles County, California from 1998 to
24 2007, and a refinery in Bakersfield, Kern County, California from 2001 to 2005. Shell also operates
25 hundreds of Shell-branded gas stations in California.

26 20. **Citgo Petroleum Corporation ("Citgo")**

27 a. Citgo is a direct, wholly owned subsidiary of PDV America, Incorporated,
28 which is a wholly owned subsidiary of PDV Holding, Incorporated. These organizations' ultimate

1 parent is Petroleos de Venezuela, S.A. ("PDVSA"), an entity wholly owned by the Republic of
2 Venezuela that plans, coordinates, supervises and controls activities carried out by its subsidiaries.
3 Citgo is incorporated in the State of Delaware and maintains its headquarters in Houston, Texas.

4 b. Citgo and its subsidiaries are engaged in the refining, marketing, and
5 transportation of petroleum products including gasoline, diesel fuel, jet fuel, petrochemicals,
6 lubricants, asphalt, and refined waxes.

7 c. Citgo is registered to do business in the State of California and has
8 designated an agent for service of process in California. Citgo further does substantial fossil fuel
9 product-related business in California, and a substantial portion of its fossil fuel products are
10 extracted, refined, transported, traded, distributed, marketed, and/or sold in California. For
11 instance, Citgo sells significant volumes of fossil-fuel derived consumer motor oils and automobile
12 lubricants through retail and wholesale distributors. Citgo further sells a wide variety of greases
13 and oils for use in construction, mining, agricultural, and metalworking machinery and vehicles,
14 and in many other industrial and commercial settings, through licensed distributors in California.

15 21. **ConocoPhillips Entities**

16 a. ConocoPhillips is a multinational energy company incorporated in the State
17 of Delaware and with its principal place of business in Houston, Texas. ConocoPhillips consists
18 of numerous divisions, subsidiaries, and affiliates engaged in all aspects of the fossil fuel industry,
19 including exploration, extraction, production, manufacture, transport, and marketing.

20 b. ConocoPhillips Company is 100% owned by ConocoPhillips.
21 ConocoPhillips Company is registered to do business in California and has a registered agent for
22 service of process in California.

23 c. Phillips 66 is a multinational energy and petrochemical company
24 incorporated in Delaware and with its principal place of business in Houston, Texas. It
25 encompasses downstream fossil fuel processing, refining, transport, and marketing segments that
26 were formerly owned and/or controlled by ConocoPhillips. Phillips 66 is registered to do business
27 in the State of California and has a registered agent for service of process in California.

28

1 d. Defendants ConocoPhillips, ConocoPhillips Company, and Phillips 66 are
2 collectively referred to herein as “ConocoPhillips.”

3 e. ConocoPhillips does substantial fossil fuel product-related business in
4 California, and a substantial portion of its fossil fuel products are extracted, refined, transported,
5 traded, distributed, marketed, and/or sold in California. For instance, ConocoPhillips owns and
6 operates oil and natural gas terminals in California, owns and operates refineries in Arroyo Grande
7 (San Luis Obispo County), Colton (San Bernardino County), and Wilmington (Los Angeles
8 County), California, and distributes its products throughout California. Phillips 66 also owns and
9 operates oil refineries in Rodeo (Contra Costa County), Santa Maria (Santa Barbara County), and
10 Wilmington (Los Angeles County), California, each of which was owned and operated by
11 ConocoPhillips and its predecessors in interest from 1997 to 2012.

12 22. **Peabody Energy**

13 a. Peabody Energy Corporation (“Peabody”) is a multi-national energy
14 company incorporated in the State of Delaware and with its principal place of business in St. Louis,
15 Missouri. Through a diverse web of affiliates and subsidiaries, Peabody is the world’s largest coal
16 extractor by volume.

17 b. Peabody does and has done substantial fossil fuel product-related business
18 in California, including exporting substantial volumes of coal through coal shipping terminals in
19 California, particularly from the ports of Long Beach (Los Angeles County), Stockton (San
20 Joaquin County), Richmond (Contra Costa County), and San Francisco. Peabody exported coal
21 mined from its western state mining operations through the Los Angeles Export Terminal while
22 that terminal was in operation from 1997 through 2003, and continues to export coal out of
23 California ports.

24 23. **Total Entities**

25 a. Total E&P USA Inc. is a wholly owned subsidiary of Total S.A.—a French
26 energy conglomerate—engaged in the North American segment of Total SA’s fossil fuel products-
27 related business. Total E&P USA Inc. and its subsidiaries are involved in the exploration for,
28 extraction, transportation, research, and marketing of Total S.A.’s fossil fuel products. Total E&P

1 USA Inc. is registered to do business in the State of California and has designated an agent for
2 service of process in California.

3 b. Total Specialties USA Inc., is a wholly owned subsidiary of Total SA,
4 involved in the marketing and distribution of Total S.A.'s fossil fuel products. Total Specialties
5 USA Inc. is incorporated in the State of Delaware and headquartered in Houston, Texas. Total
6 Specialties USA Inc. is registered to do business in the State of California and has designated an
7 agent for service of process in California. Total Specialties USA Inc. does substantial fossil fuel
8 product-related business in California, and a substantial portion of its fossil fuel products are
9 extracted, refined, transported, traded, distributed, marketed, and/or sold in California. For
10 instance, Total Specialties USA Inc. maintains regular distributorship relationships with several
11 California distributors of Total fossil fuel products, including engine oils, lubricants, greases, and
12 industrial petroleum products.

13 24. **Arch Coal, Inc.**

14 a. Arch Coal, Inc. ("Arch Coal") is a publicly traded company incorporated in
15 Delaware with its principal place of business in St. Louis, Missouri. It is the second largest coal
16 producer in the United States, selling 128 million tons of coal in 2015, almost all of which it
17 extracted from mines owned by the company and its wholly-owned subsidiary. Arch Coal explores
18 for, extracts, produces, markets and distributes its fossil fuel products.

19 b. Arch Coal's conducts substantial fossil fuel product-related business in
20 California, including its ownership and long-term leasing of coal land in California. Arch Coal
21 furthermore has historically exported substantial volumes of coal mined from its western state
22 mines through California ports including Long Beach (Los Angeles County), Stockton (San
23 Joaquin County), Richmond (Contra Costa County), and San Francisco.

24 c. Arch Coal also owns a 99% stake in Arch Western Resources, LLC, which
25 was created in a 1998 transaction under which Arch Coal absorbed all of Atlantic Ritchfield
26 Company's domestic coal operations. Included in that transaction, Arch Western Resources
27 acquired a 9% ownership stake in the Los Angeles Export Terminal, a coal export terminal
28 operation in the Port of Los Angeles from 1997 through 2003. Arch Coal and Arch Western

Resources both exported substantial volumes of coal, originating from their western state mining operations, including mines in Colorado and Utah, through the Export Terminal until its closure.

25. **Eni Entities**

a. Eni S.p.A. (“Eni”) is a vertically integrated, multinational energy company focusing on petroleum and natural gas. Eni is incorporated in the Republic of Italy, with its principal place of business in Rome, Italy. With its consolidated subsidiaries, Eni engages in the exploration, development and production of hydrocarbons; in the supply and marketing of gas, liquid natural gas, and power; in the refining and marketing of petroleum products; in the production and marketing of basic petrochemicals, plastics and elastomers; in commodity trading; and in electricity marketing and generation.

b. Eni Oil & Gas Inc. is incorporated in Texas, with its principal place of business in Houston, Texas. Eni Oil & Gas Inc., is a wholly owned subsidiary of Eni America Ltd., a Delaware corporation doing business in the United States. Eni America, Ltd. Is a wholly owned subsidiary of Eni UHL Ltd., a British corporation with its registered office in London, United Kingdom. Eni UHL Ltd. is a wholly owned subsidiary of Eni ULT, Ltd., a British corporation with its registered office on London, United Kingdom. Eni ULT, Ltd. is a wholly owned subsidiary of Eni Lasmo Plc, a British corporation with its registered office on London, United Kingdom. Eni Investments Plc, a British corporation with its registered office in London, United Kingdom, holds a 99.9% ownership interest in Eni Lasmo Plc (the other 0.01% ownership interest is held by another Eni entity, Eni UK Ltd, a British corporation with its registered office in London, United Kingdom). Eni S.p.A owns a 99.99% interest in Eni Investments Plc. Eni UK Ltd. holds the remainder interest in Eni Investments Plc. Collectively, these entities are referred to as “Eni.”

c. Eni Oil & Gas Inc. is a successor-in-interest to Golden Eagle Refining Company, Inc. (“Golden Eagle”). At times relevant to this complaint, Golden Eagle did substantial fossil fuel-related business in California. Specifically, Golden Eagle owned and/or operated oil refineries in Carson (Los Angeles County) and Martinez (Contra Costa County), California, and owned and/or operated oil pipelines in or near Long Beach (Los Angeles County), California.

1 26. **Rio Tinto Group**

2 a. Rio Tinto PLC is incorporated in England and Wales, with its principal
3 place of business in London, England. Rio Tinto Limited is incorporated in the Commonwealth of
4 Australia with its principle place of business in Melbourne, Australia. Collectively, these Rio Tinto
5 PLC and Rio Tinto Limited, along with their affiliates, divisions and subsidiaries, including those
6 described below, are referred to as “Rio Tinto.”

7 b. Rio Tinto is a dual-listed, multinational, vertically integrated metals and
8 mining corporation. Through its vast network of affiliates and subsidiaries, Rio Tinto extracts an
9 array of metals and other commodities. Pertinent here, Rio Tinto explores for, extracts, produces,
10 transports and markets coal.

11 c. Rio Tinto Energy America Inc. is a wholly owned subsidiary of Rio Tinto,
12 incorporated in the State of Delaware, with its principal place of business in Gillette, Wyoming.
13 Previously known as Kennecott Energy, Rio Tinto Energy America Inc. operates coal mines in
14 Wyoming and Montana.

15 d. Rio Tinto does substantial fossil fuel product-related business in California.
16 In 2007, for example, Hydrogen Energy California, a joint venture of BP and Rio Tinto, invested
17 \$2.3 billion in a project to construct an experimental petroleum coke fired power plant in Kern
18 County, California.

19 e. In addition, Rio Tinto’s subsidiary Rio Tinto Minerals, Inc., operates the
20 largest open pit mine in California, where it extracts approximately 30% of the world’s refined
21 boron. Rio Tinto Minerals, Inc., has also registered substantial legislative and regulatory lobbying
22 activities in California related to Rio Tinto’s fossil fuel products business since at least 2005,
23 including lobbying directed at legislation and regulation regarding greenhouse gas pollution
24 policy, air quality standards, and energy efficiency standards, as well as California’s so-called
25 “cap-and-trade” carbon emissions program, such that the exercise of jurisdiction comports with
26 traditional notions of fair play and substantial justice.

27 f. Rio Tinto Services Inc. is a Rio Tinto subsidiary incorporated in Delaware
28 and with its principal place of business in South Jordan, Utah. Rio Tinto Services, Inc. is registered

1 to do business in California and has designated an agent for service of process in California.

2 27. **Statoil ASA**

3 a. Statoil ASA (“Statoil”) is an international, vertically integrated energy
4 company incorporated in the Kingdom of Norway and headquartered in Stavanger, Norway. The
5 Norwegian State is the majority shareholder in Statoil. Statoil’s operations consist of multiple
6 segments, including exploration, production, extraction, marketing, processing, and technology
7 support of its fossil fuel products, which include both petroleum and natural gas products.

8 b. Statoil has substantial contacts with California arising out of the production,
9 marketing, and promotion of its fossil fuel products. For instance, Statoil partnered with the
10 University of California, Berkeley (Alameda County), to review management of the company’s
11 complex development projects; Statoil partnered on a methanol fueling station in Sacramento
12 (Sacramento County); Statoil was involved in a business project with a California company called
13 Quantum Technologies; and partnered with the University of California, San Diego’s (San Diego
14 County) Scripps Institute of Oceanography.

15 28. **Anadarko Petroleum Corp.**

16 a. Anadarko Petroleum Corporation (“Anadarko”) is incorporated in the State
17 of Delaware and maintains its principal place of business in The Woodlands, Texas. Anadarko is
18 a multinational, vertically integrated energy company comprised of multiple upstream and
19 downstream segments. These include exploration, production, gathering, processing, treating,
20 transporting, marketing, and selling fossil fuel products derived primarily from petroleum and
21 natural gas. In the United States, Anadarko entities operate fossil fuel product exploration and
22 production concerns in Texas, the Gulf of Mexico, Alaska, the Powder River Basin, Utah,
23 Colorado, and the Marcellus Shale Formation. Anadarko operates fossil fuel product production
24 and exploration activities internationally in Algeria, Ghana, Mozambique, and Columbia, among
25 others. Anadarko Petroleum Corporation is registered to do business in California and has
26 designated an agent for service of process in California.

27 b. Anadarko Petroleum Corporation is a successor-in-interest to HS Resources
28 Inc. (“HS”). HS was an energy company headquartered in San Francisco, San Francisco County,

1 California. It owned natural gas reserves in Colorado, North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, and
2 along the coasts of Texas and Louisiana, which it extracted and imported to California. HS was
3 acquired by Kerr-McGee Corporation in 2001. Kerr-McGee was an energy exploration and
4 production company owning oil and natural gas rights in the Gulf of Mexico, Colorado, and Utah,
5 with its corporate headquarters in Oklahoma. Anadarko Petroleum Corporation acquired Kerr-
6 McGee Corporation in 2006.

7 29. **Occidental Entities**

8 a. Occidental Petroleum Corporation is a multinational, vertically integrated
9 energy and chemical company incorporated in the State of Delaware and with its principal place
10 of business in Houston, Texas. Occidental's operations consist of three segments: Occidental's
11 operations consist of three segments: (1) the exploration for, extraction of, and production of oil
12 and natural gas products; (2) the manufacture and marketing of chemicals and vinyls; and (3)
13 processing, transport, storage, purchase, and marketing of oil, natural gas, and power. Occidental
14 Petroleum Corporation is registered to do business in the State of California and has designated an
15 agent for service of process in the State of California.

16 b. Occidental Chemical Corporation, a manufacturer and marketer of
17 petrochemicals, such as polyvinyl chloride resins, is a wholly owned subsidiary of Occidental
18 Petroleum Corporation. Occidental Chemical Corporation is registered to do business in the State
19 of California and has designated an agent for service of process in the State of California.

20 c. Defendants Occidental Petroleum Corporation and Occidental Chemical
21 Corporation are collectively referred to as "Occidental."

22 d. Occidental does substantial fossil fuel product-related business in the State
23 of California, and a substantial portion of its fossil fuel products are extracted, refined, transported,
24 traded, distributed, marketed and/or sold in California. For instance, Occidental extracted and
25 transported its fossil fuel products from approximately 30,900 drilling locations within the San
26 Joaquin, Los Angeles, Ventura, and Sacramento Basins in California.

27 e. In addition, Occidental conducts has conducted substantial activities in the
28 state, including marketing and promotion; efforts to avoid or minimize regulation of greenhouse

1 gas pollution in and from California; and efforts to influence statutory and regulatory debate
2 regarding fossil fuel consumption, electric power distribution, and greenhouse gas pollution
3 policies such that the exercise of jurisdiction comports with traditional notions of fair play and
4 substantial justice. Since 1999, Occidental Petroleum Corp. and its subsidiaries have reported more
5 than \$4.6 million in lobbying expenditures directed at numerous statutory and regulatory proposals
6 before the California legislature and executive agencies, including the California Energy
7 Commission, California Air Resources Board, and California Public Utilities Commission, related
8 to its fossil fuel products business.

9 30. **Repsol S.A.**

10 a. Repsol S.A. (“Repsol”) is a vertically integrated, multinational global
11 energy company, incorporated in the Kingdom of Spain, with its principal place of business in
12 Madrid, Spain. Repsol is involved in multiple aspects of the fossil fuel industry, including
13 exploration, production, marketing, and trading. Repsol engages in significant fossil fuel
14 exploration and production activities in the United States, including in the Gulf of Mexico, the
15 Marcellus Shale in Pennsylvania, the Eagle Ford Shale in South Texas, the Mississippi Lime in
16 Oklahoma and Kansas, the North Slope in Alaska, and the Trenton-Black River in New York

17 b. Repsol does substantial fossil fuel product-related business in the State of
18 California, and a substantial portion of its fossil fuel products are extracted, refined, transported,
19 traded, distributed, marketed and/or sold in California. For instance, Repsol subsidiary Repsol
20 Energy North America Corporation, incorporated in the State of Texas and with its principal place
21 of business in The Woodlands, Texas, is listed as a natural gas procurement, storage,
22 transportation, scheduling, and risk management provider by Pacific Gas and Electric, a California
23 utility. Repsol Energy North America Corporation is registered to do business in California and
24 has designated an agent for service of process in California. Repsol subsidiary Repsol Trading
25 USA Corporation, incorporated in the State of Texas and with its principal place of business in
26 The Woodlands, Texas, is also registered do business in California and has designated an agent
27 for service of process in California. Additionally, Repsol represents on its website that it is
28 engaging in strategic opportunities involving its fossil fuel products in California, which may

1 consist of crude oil, gasoline, diesel, and/or jet fuel.

2 31. **Marathon Entities**

3 a. Marathon Oil Company is an energy company incorporated in the State of
4 Ohio and with its principal place of business in Houston, Texas. Marathon Oil Company is
5 registered to do business in California and has designated an agent for service of process in
6 California. Marathon Oil Company is a corporate ancestor of Marathon Oil Corporation and
7 Marathon Petroleum Company.

8 b. Marathon Oil Company is a successor-in-interest to Husky Oil Ltd.
9 (“Husky”), which it acquired in 1984. During times relevant to this Complaint, Husky operated oil
10 production facilities near Santa Maria (Santa Barbara County), California, where it produced
11 nearly 1,100 barrels per day. During the period relevant to this litigation, Husky did substantial
12 fossil fuel product-related business in California.

13 c. Marathon Oil Corporation is a multinational energy company incorporated
14 in the State of Delaware and with its principal place of business in Houston, Texas. Marathon Oil
15 Corporation consists of multiple subsidiaries and affiliates involved in the exploration for,
16 extraction, production, and marketing of fossil fuel products.

17 d. Marathon Petroleum Corporation is a multinational energy company
18 incorporated in Delaware and with its principal place of business in Findlay, Ohio. Marathon
19 Petroleum Corporation was spun off from the operations of Marathon Oil Corporation in 2011. It
20 consists of multiple subsidiaries and affiliates involved in fossil fuel product refining, marketing,
21 retail, and transport, including both petroleum and natural gas products.

22 e. Defendants Marathon Oil Company, Marathon Oil Corporation, and
23 Marathon Petroleum Corporation are collectively referred to as “Marathon.”

24 32. **Hess Corporation**

25 a. Hess Corp. (“Hess”) is a global, vertically integrated petroleum exploration
26 and extraction company incorporated in the State of Delaware with its headquarters and principal
27 place of business in New York, New York.

28 b. Hess is engaged in the exploration, development, production,

1 transportation, purchase, marketing and sale of crude oil and natural gas. Its oil and gas production
2 operations are located primarily in the United States, Denmark, Equatorial Guinea, Malaysia,
3 Thailand, and Norway. Prior to 2014, Hess also conducted extensive retail operations in its own
4 name and through subsidiaries. Hess owned and operated more than 1,000 gas stations throughout
5 the United States, including in California during times relevant to this complaint. Prior to 2013,
6 Hess also operated oil refineries in the continental United States and U.S. Virgin Islands.

7 33. **Devon Energy Corporation**

8 a. Devon Energy Corp. is an independent energy company engaged in the
9 exploration, development, and production of oil, and natural gas. It is incorporated in the State of
10 Delaware and maintains its principal place of business in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Devon is
11 engaged in multiple aspects of the fossil fuel industry, including exploration, development,
12 production, and marketing of its fossil fuel products.

13 b. Devon Energy Production Company, L.P. is a Devon subsidiary registered
14 to do business in the State of California and with a designated agent for service of process in
15 California. Devon Energy does substantial fossil fuel product-related business in California.

16 c. Devon Energy Corp. is a successor-in-interest to the Pauley Petroleum
17 Company (“Pauley”). At times relevant to this complaint, Pauley did substantial fossil-fuel related
18 business in California. Specifically, this included owning and operating a petroleum refinery in
19 Newhall (Los Angeles County), California from 1959 to 1989, and a refinery in Wilmington (Los
20 Angeles, Los Angeles County), California from 1988 to 1992. Pauley merged with Hondo Oil and
21 Gas Co. (“Hondo”) in 1987. Subsequently, Devon Energy Corp. acquired Hondo in 1992.

22 d. Defendants Devon Energy Production Company, L.P. and Devon Energy
23 Corp. are collectively referred to as “Devon.”

24 34. **Encana Corporation**

25 a. Encana Corp. is a Canadian corporation with its principal place of business
26 in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. Encana is an extractor and marketer of oil and natural gas and has
27 facilities including gas plants and gas wells in Colorado, Texas, Wyoming, Louisiana, and
28 New Mexico. By approximately 2005, Encana was the largest independent owner and operator of

1 natural gas storage facilities in North America.

2 b. Encana has done and continues to do substantial fossil fuel product-related
3 business in California. Between 1997 and 2006, Encana owned and operated the Wild Goose
4 Storage underground natural gas storage facility in Butte County, California. In 2003, Encana
5 began transporting natural gas through a 25-mile pipeline from the Wild Goose Station to a Pacific
6 Gas & Electric Co. ("PG&E") compressor station in Colusa County, where gas entered the main
7 PG&E pipeline. Encana invested in a 100 billion cubic foot expansion of the facility in 2004,
8 bringing gas storage capacity at Wild Goose to 24 billion cubic feet.

9 35. **Apache Corporation**

10 a. Apache Corp. is a publicly traded Delaware corporation with its principal
11 place of business in Houston, Texas. Apache is an oil and gas exploration and production company,
12 with crude oil and natural gas exploration and extraction operations in the United States, Canada,
13 Egypt, and in the North Sea.

14 b. During the time at issue, Apache extracted natural gas from wells developed
15 on approximately seven million acres of land held in the Canadian provinces of British Columbia,
16 Alberta, and Saskatchewan, and Apache did substantial fossil fuel product-related business in
17 California. Apache transported a substantial volume of the natural gas extracted from its Canadian
18 holdings to California, where it sold that gas to electric utilities, end-users, other fossil fuel
19 companies, supply aggregators, and other fossil fuel marketers. Apache directed sales of its natural
20 gas to California in addition to markets in Washington state, Chicago, and western Canada, to
21 intentionally retain a diverse customer base and maximize profits from the differential price rates
22 and demand levels in those respective markets.

23 36. **Doe Defendants**

24 a. The true names and capacities, whether individual, corporate, associate, or
25 otherwise of Defendants Does 1 through 100, inclusive, are unknown to Plaintiffs, who therefore
26 sue said Defendants by such fictitious names pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure
27 Section 474. Plaintiffs are informed and believe, and on that basis allege, that each of the
28

1 fictitiously named Defendants is responsible in some manner for the acts and occurrences herein
2 alleged, and that Plaintiffs' damages were caused by such Defendants.

3 37. **Relevant Non-Parties: Fossil Fuel Industry Associations**

4 38. As set forth in greater detail below, each Defendant had actual knowledge that its
5 fossil fuel products were hazardous. Defendants obtained knowledge of the hazards of their
6 products independently and through their membership and involvement in trade associations.

7 39. Each Defendant's fossil fuel promotion and marketing efforts were assisted by the
8 trade associations described below. Acting on behalf of the Defendants, the industry associations
9 engaged in a long-term course of conduct to misrepresent, omit, and conceal the dangers of
10 Defendants' fossil fuel products.

11 a. **The American Petroleum Institute (API)**: API is a national trade
12 association representing the oil and gas industry, formed in 1919. The following Defendants and/or
13 their predecessors in interest are and/or have been API members at times relevant to this litigation:
14 Chevron, ExxonMobil, Shell, ConocoPhillips, Statoil, Anadarko, Occidental, Repsol, Marathon,
15 EnCana, and Apache.¹⁴

16 b. **The American Coalition for Clean Coal Electricity (ACCCE)**: ACCCE
17 is a national coal industry trade association. Arch Coal and Peabody were part of the ACCCE at
18 times relevant to this complaint.¹⁵

19 c. **The National Mining Association (NMA)**: NMA is a national trade
20 organization that advocates for mining interests, including coal mining. Arch Coal, Inc., Peabody
21 Energy, and Rio Tinto/Kennecott Utah Copper are all members.¹⁶

22 d. **The Western States Petroleum Association (WSPA)**: WSPA is a trade
23 association representing oil producers in Arizona, California, Nevada, Oregon and Washington.¹⁷
24 Its members include, and at times relevant to this Complaint, have included, BP, Chevron, Shell,

25
26 ¹⁴ American Petroleum Institute (API), Members, <http://www.api.org/membership/members> (as of June 1, 2017).

27 ¹⁵ Energy and Policy Institute, ACCCE Members, <https://www.documentcloud.org/documents/2199289-accce-members.html> (as of June 1, 2017).

28 ¹⁶ National Mining Association (NMA), Members, <http://nma.org/about-nma/member-list> (As of June 1, 2017).

¹⁷ WSPA, What is WSPA, <https://www.wspa.org/what-is-wspa> (as of June 1, 2017).

Occidental, and ExxonMobil.¹⁸

e. **The American Fuel and Petrochemical Manufacturers (AFPM)** is a national association of petroleum and petrochemical companies. At relevant times, its members included, but were not limited to, BP Petrochemicals, BP Products North America, Chevron U.S.A. Inc., CITGO Petroleum Corporation, Exxon Mobil Corporation, Occidental Chemical Corporation, Phillips 66, Shell Chemical Company, and Total Petrochemicals & Refining USA, Inc.¹⁹

f. **The Information Council for the Environment (ICE)**: ICE was formed by coal companies and their allies, including Western Fuels Association and the National Coal Association. Associated companies included Peabody, Pittsburg and Midway Coal Mining (Chevron),²⁰ and Island Creek Coal Company (Occidental).

g. **The Global Climate Coalition (GCC)**: GCC was an industry group formed to oppose greenhouse gas emission reduction policies and the Kyoto Protocol. It was founded in 1989 shortly after the first Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change meeting was held, and disbanded in 2001. Founding members included the National Association of Manufacturers, the National Coal Association, the Edison Electric Institute, and the United States Chamber of Commerce. The GCC's early individual corporate members included Amoco (BP), API, Chevron, Exxon, Ford, Shell Oil, Texaco (Chevron) and Phillips Petroleum (ConocoPhillips). Over its existence other members and funders included ARCO (BP), BHP, the National Mining Association, and the Western Fuels Association. The coalition also operated for several years out of the National Association of Manufacturers' offices.

III. **AGENCY**

40. At all times herein mentioned, each of the Defendants was the agent, servant, partner, aider and abettor, co-conspirator, and/or joint venturer of each of the remaining Defendants herein and was at all times operating and acting within the purpose and scope of said

¹⁸ WSPA, Member List, <https://www.wspa.org/member-list> (as of June 1, 2017).

¹⁹ AFPM, Membership Directory, <https://www.afpm.org/membership-directory/> (As of June 30, 2017).

²⁰ Hereinafter, parenthetical references to Defendants indicate corporate ancestry and/or affiliation.

1 agency, service, employment, partnership, conspiracy, and joint venture and rendered substantial
2 assistance and encouragement to the other Defendants, knowing that their conduct was wrongful
3 and/or constituted a breach of duty.

4 **IV. JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

5 41. This court's personal jurisdiction over Defendants named herein is proper because
6 each Defendant maintains substantial contacts with California by and through their fossil fuel
7 business operations in this state, as described above, and because Plaintiffs' injuries described
8 herein arose out of and relate to those operations and occurred in California.

9 42. The Superior Court of California for San Mateo County is a court of general
10 jurisdiction and therefore has subject matter jurisdiction over this action.

11 43. Venue is proper in San Mateo County pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure sections
12 395 and 395.5 because the injury giving rise to the County's claims occurred in San Mateo County.

13 **V. FACTUAL BACKGROUND**

14 **A. Global Warming—Observed Effects and Known Cause**

15 44. The Earth is warming at a rate unprecedented in human history.

16 45. Atmospheric and ocean temperatures have both increased substantially since the
17 beginning of the global industrial revolution, and the rate of warming has also dramatically
18 increased since the end of World War II.

19 46. In the geological short term, ocean and land surface temperatures have increased at
20 a rapid pace during the late 20th and early 21st centuries:

- 21 a. 2016 was the hottest year on record by globally averaged surface
22 temperatures, exceeding mid-20th century mean ocean and land surface
23 temperatures by approximately 1.69–1.78° F.²¹ Eight of the twelve months
24 in 2016 were hotter by globally averaged surface temperatures than those
25 respective months in any previous year. October, November, and December

26
27 ²¹ NOAA, Global Summary Information – December 2016, [https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/sotc/summary-](https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/sotc/summary-info/global/201612)
28 [info/global/201612](https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/sotc/summary-info/global/201612); NASA, NASA, NOAA Data Show 2016 Warmest Year on Record Globally (January 18, 2017),
<https://www.nasa.gov/press-release/nasa-noaa-data-show-2016-warmest-year-on-record-globally>.

- 1 2016 showed the second hottest average surface temperatures for those
2 months, second only to temperatures recorded in 2015.²²
- 3 b. The Earth's hottest month ever recorded was February 2016, followed
4 immediately by the second hottest month on record, March 2016.²³
- 5 c. The second hottest year on record by globally averaged surface
6 temperatures was 2015, and the third hottest was 2014.²⁴
- 7 d. The ten hottest years on record by globally averaged surface temperature
8 have all occurred since 1998, and sixteen of the seventeen hottest years have
9 occurred since 2001.²⁵
- 10 e. Each of the past three decades has been warmer by average surface
11 temperature than any preceding decade on record.²⁶
- 12 f. The period between 1983 and 2012 was likely the warmest 30-year period
13 in the Northern Hemisphere since approximately 700 AD.²⁷

14 47. The average global surface and ocean temperature in 2016 was approximately 1.7°
15 F warmer than the 20th century baseline, which is the greatest positive anomaly observed since at
16 least 1880.²⁸ The increase in hotter temperatures and more frequent positive anomalies during the
17 Great Acceleration is occurring both globally and locally, including in San Mateo County. The
18 graph below shows the increase in global land and ocean temperature anomalies since 1880, as
19 measured against the 1910–2000 global average temperature.²⁹

20
21
22

23 ²² NASA, NASA, NOAA Data Show 2016 Warmest Year on Record Globally (January 18, 2017),
<https://www.nasa.gov/press-release/nasa-noaa-data-show-2016-warmest-year-on-record-globally>.

24 ²³ Jugal K. Patel, How 2016 Became Earth's Hottest Year on Record, N.Y. Times (January 18, 2017),
<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2017/01/18/science/earth/2016-hottest-year-on-record.html>.

25 ²⁴ NASA, NASA, NOAA Data Show 2016 Warmest Year on Record Globally (January 18, 2017),
<https://www.nasa.gov/press-release/nasa-noaa-data-show-2016-warmest-year-on-record-globally>.

26 ²⁵ Id.

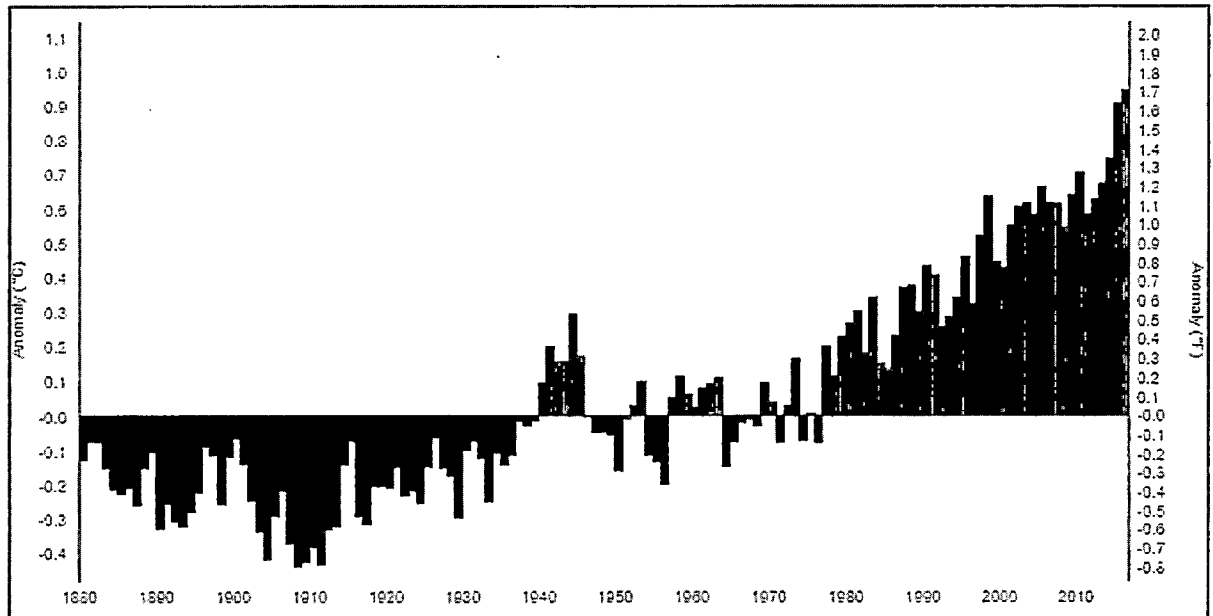
27 ²⁶ IPCC, 2014: Climate Change 2014: Synthesis Report, *supra* (2014), <https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar5/syr/>.

28 ²⁷ Id.

²⁸ NOAA, National Centers for Environmental Information, Climate at a Glance (Global Time Series) (June 2017)
https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/cag/time-series/global/globe/land_ocean/yt/12/1880-2016.

²⁹ Id.

Global Land and Ocean Temperature Anomalies, January - December



48. The mechanism by which human activity causes global warming and climate change is well established: ocean and atmospheric warming is overwhelmingly caused by anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions.³⁰

49. When emitted, greenhouse gases trap heat within the Earth's atmosphere that would otherwise radiate into space.

50. Greenhouse gases are largely byproducts of humans' burning fossil fuels to produce energy, and using fossil fuels to create petrochemical products.

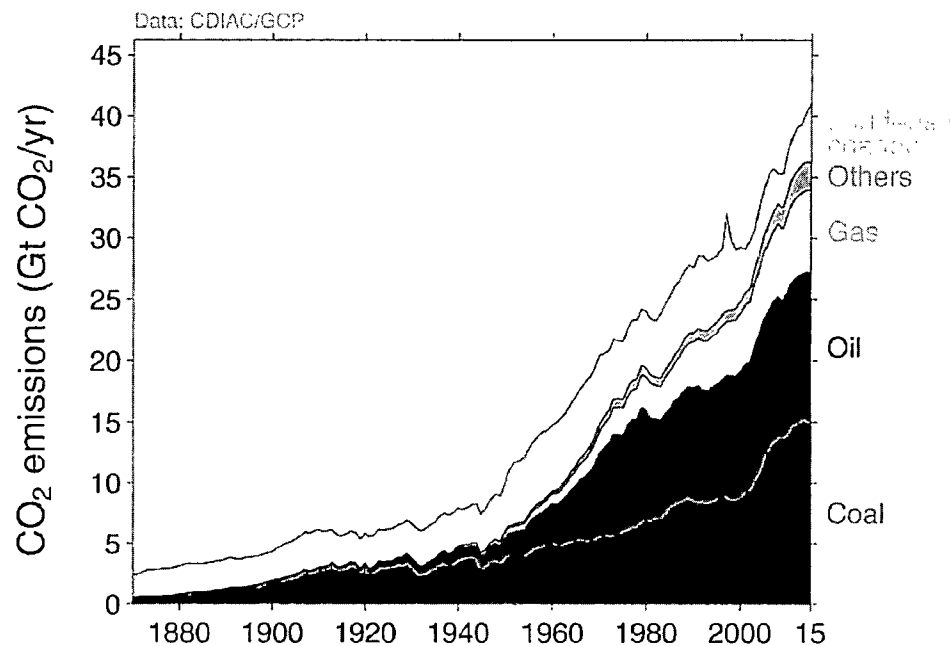
51. Human activity, particularly greenhouse gas emissions, is the primary cause of global warming and its associated effects on Earth's climate.

52. Prior to World War II, most anthropogenic CO₂ emissions were caused by land-use practices, such as forestry and agriculture, which altered the ability of the land and global biosphere to absorb CO₂ from the atmosphere; the impacts of such activities on Earth's climate were relatively minor. Since the beginning of the Great Acceleration, however, both the annual rate and total volume of human CO₂ emissions have increased enormously following the advent of major

³⁰ IPCC, 2014: Climate Change 2014: Synthesis Report, *supra*, page 4 (2014), <https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar5/syr/>.

uses of oil, gas, and coal. The graph below shows that while CO₂ emissions attributable to forestry and other land-use change have remained relatively constant, total emissions attributable to fossil fuels have increased dramatically since the 1950s.³¹

Total Annual Carbon Dioxide Emissions by Source, 1860-2015:



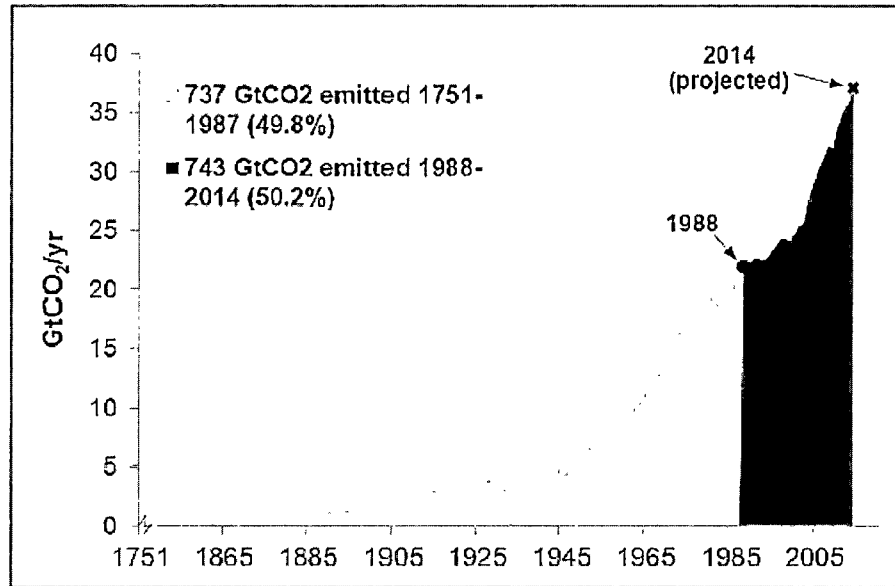
53. As human reliance on fossil fuels for industrial and mechanical processes has increased, so too have greenhouse gas emissions, especially of CO₂. The Great Acceleration is marked by a massive increase in the annual rate of fossil fuel emissions: more than half of all cumulative CO₂ emissions have occurred since 1988.³² The rate of CO₂ emissions from fossil fuels and industry, moreover, has increased threefold since the 1960s, and by more than 60% since

³¹ Global Carbon Project, Global Carbon Budget 2016 (November 14, 2016), www.globalcarbonproject.org/carbonbudget/16/files/GCP_CarbonBudget_2016.pdf, citing CDIAC; R.A. Houghton et al., Carbon emissions from land use and land-cover change (2012), <http://www.biogeosciences.net/9/5125/2012/bg-9-5125-2012.html>; Louis Giglio et al., Analysis of daily, monthly, and annual burned area using the fourth-generation global fire emissions database (2013), <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/jgrg.20042/abstract>; C. Le Quéré et al., Global Carbon Budget 2016, *Earth Syst. Sci. Data* 8 (2016), <http://www.earth-syst-sci-data.net/8/605/2016/>.

³² R. J. Andres et al., A synthesis of carbon dioxide emissions from fossil-fuel combustion, *Biogeosciences*, 9, 1851 (2012), <http://www.biogeosciences.net/9/1845/2012/>.

1990.³³ The graph below illustrates the increasing rate of global CO₂ emissions since the industrial era began.³⁴

Cumulative Annual Anthropogenic Carbon Dioxide Emissions, 1751-2014:



54. Because of the increased use of fossil fuel products, concentrations of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere are now at a level unprecedented in at least 800,000 years.³⁵ The graph below illustrates the nearly 30% increase in atmospheric CO₂ concentration above pre-Industrial levels since 1960.³⁶

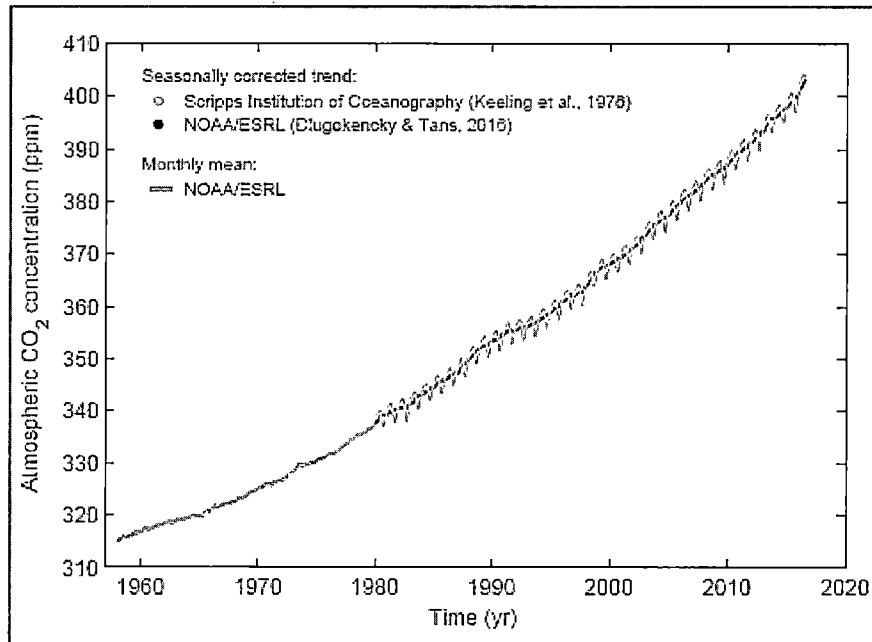
³³ C. Le Quéré et al., Global Carbon Budget 2016, Earth Syst. Sci. Data 8, 625, 630 (2016), <http://www.earth-syst-sci-data.net/8/605/2016/> (“Global CO₂ emissions from fossil fuels and industry have increased every decade from an average of 3.1±0.2 GtC/yr in the 1960s to an average of 9.3±0.5 GtC/yr during 2006–2015”).

³⁴ Peter Frumhoff, et al. The Climate Responsibilities of Industrial Carbon Producers, Climatic Change 132:157-171, 164 (2015).

³⁵ IPCC, 2014: Climate Change 2014: Synthesis Report, *supra*, page 4 (2014), <https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar5/syr/>.

³⁶ C. Le Quéré et al., Global Carbon Budget 2016, Earth Syst. Sci. Data 8, 608 (2016), <http://www.earth-syst-sci-data.net/8/605/2016/>.

Atmospheric Carbon Dioxide Concentration in Parts Per Million, 1960-2015:



B. Sea Level Rise—Known Causes and Observed Effects

55. Sea level rise is the physical consequence of (a) the thermal expansion of ocean waters as they warm; (b) increased mass loss from land-based glaciers that are melting as ambient air temperature increases; and (c) the shrinking of land-based ice sheets due to increasing ocean and air temperature.³⁷

56. Of the increase in energy that has accumulated in the Earth's atmosphere between 1971 and 2010, more than 90% is stored in the oceans.³⁸

57. Anthropogenic forcing, in the form of greenhouse gas pollution largely from the production, use and combustion of fossil fuel products, is the dominant cause of global mean sea level rise since 1970, explaining at least 70% of the sea level rise observed between 1970 and 2000.³⁹ Natural radiative forcing—that is, causes of climate change not related to human activity—“makes essentially zero contribution [to observed sea level rise] over the twentieth century (2%

³⁷ NOAA, Is sea level rising, Ocean Facts <http://oceanservice.noaa.gov/facts/sealevel.html> (as of June 1, 2017).

³⁸ IPCC, 2014: Climate Change 2014: Synthesis Report, *supra*, page 4 (2014), <https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar5/syr/>.

³⁹ Slangen et al., Anthropogenic Forcing Dominates Global Mean Sea-Level Rise Since 1970, *Nature Climate Change*, Vol. 6, 701 (2016).

over the period 1900–2005).”⁴⁰

58. Anthropogenic greenhouse gas pollution is the dominant factor in each of the independent causes of sea level rise, including the increase in ocean thermal expansion,⁴¹ in glacier mass loss, and in more negative surface mass balance from the ice sheets.⁴²

59. There is a well-defined relation between cumulative emissions of CO₂ and committed global mean sea level. This relation, moreover, holds proportionately for committed regional sea level rise.⁴³

60. Nearly 100% of the sea level rise from any projected greenhouse gas emissions scenario will persist for at least 10,000 years.⁴⁴ This owes to the long residence time of CO₂ in the atmosphere that sustains temperature increases, and inertia in the climate system.⁴⁵

61. Anthropogenic greenhouse gas pollution caused the increased frequency and severity of extreme sea level events (temporary sea level height increases due to storm surges or extreme tides, exacerbated by elevated baseline sea level) observed during the Great Acceleration.⁴⁶ The incidence and magnitude of extreme sea level events has increased globally since 1970.⁴⁷ The impacts of such events, which generally occur with large storms, high tidal events, offshore low-pressure systems associated with high winds, or the confluence of any of these factors,⁴⁸ are exacerbated with higher average sea level, which functionally raises the baseline for the destructive impact of extreme weather and tidal events. Indeed, the magnitude and

⁴⁰ Slangen et al., Anthropogenic Forcing Dominates Global Mean Sea-Level Rise Since 1970, Nature Climate Change, Vol. 6, 701 (2016).

⁴¹ Id.

⁴² Id.

⁴³ Peter U. Clark et al., Consequences of Twenty-First-Century Policy for Multi-Millennial Climate and Sea-Level Change, Nature Climate Change Vol. 6, 365 (2016).

⁴⁴ Peter U. Clark et al., Consequences of Twenty-First-Century Policy for Multi-Millennial Climate and Sea-Level Change, Nature Climate Change Vol. 6, 361 (2016).

⁴⁵ Peter U. Clark et al., Consequences of Twenty-First-Century Policy for Multi-Millennial Climate and Sea-Level Change, Nature Climate Change Vol. 6, 360 (2016).

⁴⁶ IPCC, 2013: Summary for Policymakers, page 7, Table SPM.1 (2013), https://www.ipcc.ch/pdf/assessment-report/ar5/wg1/WGIAR5_SPM_brochure_en.pdf.

⁴⁷ IPCC, Climate Change 2013: The Physical Science Basis, Contribution of Working Group I to the Fifth Assessment Report of the IPCC, 290 (2013), http://www.climatechange2013.org/images/report/WG1AR5_ALL_FINAL.pdf.

⁴⁸ Id.

1 frequency of extreme sea level events can occur in the absence of increased intensity of storm
2 events, given the increased average elevation from which flooding and inundation events begin.
3 These effects, and others, significantly and adversely affect Plaintiffs, with increased severity in
4 the future.

5 62. Historical greenhouse gas emissions alone through 2000 will cause a global mean
6 sea level rise of at least 7.4 feet.⁴⁹ Additional greenhouse gas emissions from 2001–2015 have
7 caused approximately 10 additional feet of committed sea level rise. Even immediate and
8 permanent cessation of all additional anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions would not prevent
9 the eventual inundation of land at elevations between current average mean sea level and 17.4 feet
10 of elevation in the absence of adaptive measures.

11 63. The relationship between anthropogenic CO₂ emissions and committed sea level
12 rise is nearly linear and always positive. For emissions, including future emissions, from the year
13 2001, the relation is approximately 0.25 inches of committed sea level rise per 1 GtCO₂ released.
14 For the period 1965 to 2000, the relation is approximately 0.05 inches of committed sea level rise
15 per 1 GtCO₂ released. For the period 1965 to 2015, normal use of Defendants' fossil fuel products
16 caused a substantial portion of committed sea level rise. Each and every additional unit of CO₂
17 emitted from the use of Defendants' fossil fuel products will add to the sea level rise already
18 committed to the geophysical system.

19 64. Projected onshore impacts associated with rising sea temperature and water level
20 include increases in flooding and erosion; increases in the occurrence, persistence, and severity of
21 storm surges; infrastructure inundation; public and private property damage; and pollution
22 associated with damaged control and waste infrastructure, and the lack thereof. All of these effects
23 significantly and adversely affect Plaintiffs.

24 65. Sea level rise has already taken grave tolls on inhabited coastlines. For instance, the
25 U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration ("NOAA") estimates that nuisance
26

27 ⁴⁹ Peter U. Clark et al., Consequences of Twenty-First-Century Policy for Multi-Millennial Climate and Sea-Level
28 Change, Nature Climate Change Vol. 6, 365 (2016).

1 flooding occurs from 300% to 900% more frequently within U.S. coastal communities today than
2 just 50 years ago.⁵⁰

3 66. Nationwide, more than three quarters (76%) of flood days caused by high water
4 levels from sea level rise between 2005 and 2014 (2,505 of the 3,291 flood days) would not have
5 happened but for human-caused climate change. More than two-thirds (67%) of flood days since
6 1950 would not have happened without the sea level rise caused by increasing greenhouse
7 gas emissions.⁵¹

8 67. Regional expressions of sea level rise will differ from the global mean, and are
9 especially influenced by changes in ocean and atmospheric dynamics, as well as the gravitational,
10 deformational, and rotational effects of the loss of glaciers and ice sheets.⁵² Due to these effects,
11 San Mateo County will experience significantly greater absolute committed sea level rise than the
12 global mean.⁵³

13 68. The County's assessments show that the San Francisco Bay Area and San Mateo
14 County are "particularly vulnerable to sea level rise and changes in salinity, temperature, and
15 runoff."⁵⁴ This is because San Mateo's topography, geography, and land use patterns make it
16 particularly susceptible to injuries from sea level rise; and because the California coast South of
17 Cape Mendocino, including San Mateo, is projected, due to its geophysical characteristics, to
18 experience a higher rate of sea level rise and a greater absolute amount of sea level rise than the
19 global mean.⁵⁵

20 69. Given an emissions scenario in which the current rate of greenhouse gas pollution
21

22 ⁵⁰ NOAA, Is sea level rising, Ocean Facts, <http://oceanservice.noaa.gov/facts/sealevel.html>, (as of June 1, 2017).

23 ⁵¹ Climate Central, Sea Level Rise Upping Ante on 'Sunny Day' Floods (October 17, 2016),
<http://www.climatecentral.org/news/climate-change-increases-sunny-day-floods-20784>.

24 ⁵² Peter U. Clark et al., Consequences of Twenty-First-Century Policy for Multi-Millennial Climate and Sea-Level
Change, *Nature Climate Change* Vol. 6, 364, (2016).

25 ⁵³ See id., Figure 3(c).

26 ⁵⁴ County of San Mateo, Sea Level Rise Vulnerability Assessment, Public Draft, p. 27 (April 2017),
<http://seachangesmc.com/current-efforts/vulnerability-assessment/>.

27 ⁵⁵ Global sea level rise is projected to be 82.7 cm (32.6 inches) above 2000 levels by 2100. See National Research
28 Council, Sea-Level Rise for the Coasts of California, Oregon, and Washington: Past Present and Future (2012) at
page 107 at Table 5.2; page 117 at Table 5.3. The San Francisco Bay Area sea level rise is projected to be 91.9 cm
(36.2 inches) over 2000 by 2100. Id.

continues unabated, sea level in the San Francisco Bay Area, including San Mateo County, will rise significantly by the year 2100.⁵⁶

70. San Mateo County's sea level rise vulnerability analyses anticipate extreme sea level rise events equivalent to a 1% annual-chance flood of 42-inches over and above expected changes to the mean sea level height along the County.⁵⁷ Such an event, even with the minimum anticipated sea level rise, would inundate thousands of acres of County land,⁵⁸ breach flood protection infrastructure,⁵⁹ and swamp San Francisco International Airport⁶⁰ (located within the County), among other impacts.

71. Without Defendants' fossil fuel-related greenhouse gas pollution, current sea level rise would have been far less than the observed sea level rise to date.⁶¹ Similarly, committed sea level rise that will occur in the future would also be far less.⁶²

C. Attribution

72. "Carbon factors" analysis, devised by the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the United Nations International Energy Agency, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, quantifies the amount of CO₂ emissions attributable to a unit of raw fossil fuel extracted from the Earth.⁶³ Emissions factors for oil, coal, liquid natural gas, and natural gas are different for each material but are nevertheless known and quantifiable for each.⁶⁴ This analysis accounts for the use of Defendants' fossil fuel products, including non-combustion purposes that sequester

⁵⁶ Gary Griggs et al., Rising Seas in California: An Update on Sea-Level Rise Science, California Ocean Science Trust, p. 26, Table 1(b) (April 2017), <http://www.opc.ca.gov/webmaster/ftp/pdf/docs/rising-seas-in-california-an-update-on-sea-level-rise-science.pdf>.

⁵⁷ See County of San Mateo, Sea Level Rise Vulnerability Assessment, Public Draft, p. 46-7, 102 (April 2017), <http://seachangesmc.com/current-efforts/vulnerability-assessment/>.

⁵⁸ See *id.* at page 82-3.

⁵⁹ See *id.* at page 97.

⁶⁰ See *id.* at page 102.

⁶¹ Robert E. Kopp et al., Temperature-driven Global Sea-level Variability in the Common Era, Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, Vol. 113, No. 11, E1434-E1441, E1438 (2016), <http://www.pnas.org/content/113/11/E1434.full>.

⁶² Peter U. Clark et al., Consequences of Twenty-First-Century Policy for Multi-Millennial Climate and Sea-Level Change, Nature Climate Change Vol. 6, 365 (2016).

⁶³ See Richard Heede, Tracing Anthropogenic Carbon Dioxide and Methane Emissions to Fossil Fuel and Cement Producers, 1854-2010, Climatic Change 122, 232-33 (2014), <https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10584-013-0986-y>.

⁶⁴ See, e.g., *id.*

CO₂ rather than emit it (e.g., production of asphalt).

73. Defendants' historical and current fossil fuel extraction and production records are publicly available in various fora. These include university and public library collections, company websites, company reports filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, company histories, and other sources. The cumulative CO₂ and methane emissions attributable to Defendants' fossil fuel products were calculated by reference to such publicly available documents.

74. While it is possible to distinguish CO₂ derived from fossil fuels from other sources, it is not possible to determine the source of any particular individual molecule of CO₂ in the atmosphere attributable to anthropogenic sources because such greenhouse gas molecules do not bear markers that permit tracing them to their source, and because greenhouse gasses quickly diffuse and commingle in the atmosphere. However, cumulative carbon analysis allows an accurate calculation of net annual CO₂ and methane emissions attributable to each Defendant by quantifying the amount and type of fossil fuels products each Defendant extracted and placed into the stream of commerce, and multiplying those quantities by each fossil fuel product's carbon factor.

75. Defendants, through their extraction, promotion, marketing, and sale of their fossil fuel products, caused approximately 20% of global fossil fuel product-related CO₂ between 1965 and 2015, with contributions currently continuing unabated. This constitutes a substantial portion of all such emissions in history, and the attendant historical, projected, and committed sea level rise associated therewith.

76. Total cumulative emissions increased from 470 GtC in 2000 to 600 GtC gigatons through 2015, representing an almost 30% increase in total emissions in only sixteen years.⁶⁵

77. By quantifying CO₂ and methane pollution attributable to Defendants by and through their fossil fuel products, ambient air and ocean temperature and sea level responses to those emissions are also calculable, and can be attributed to Defendants on an individual and aggregate basis. Individually and collectively, Defendants' extraction, sale, and promotion of their

⁶⁵ See C. Le Quéré et al., Global Carbon Budget 2016, Earth Syst. Sci. Data 8, 633, table 10 (2016), <http://www.earth-syst-sci-data.net/8/605/2016/>.

1 fossil fuel products are responsible for substantial increases in ambient (surface) temperature,
2 ocean temperature, sea level, extreme storm events, and other adverse impacts on Plaintiffs
3 described herein.

4 78. Anthropogenic CO₂ emissions through 2015 have caused approximately 17.4 feet
5 of committed mean global sea level rise.⁶⁶ Defendants, through their extraction, promotion,
6 marketing, and sale of their fossil fuel products, caused a substantial portion of both those
7 emissions and the attendant historical, projected, and committed sea level rise.

8 79. As explained above, this analysis considers only the volume of raw material
9 actually extracted from the Earth by these Defendants. Many of these Defendants actually are
10 responsible for far greater volumes of emissions because they also refine, manufacture, produce,
11 market, promote, and sell more fossil fuel derivatives than they extract themselves by purchasing
12 fossil fuel products extracted by independent third parties.

13 80. In addition, considering the Defendants' lead role in promoting, marketing, and
14 selling their fossil fuels products between 1965 and 2015; their efforts to conceal the hazards of
15 those products from consumers; their promotion of their fossil fuel products despite knowing the
16 dangers associate with those products; their dogged campaign against regulation of those products
17 based on falsehoods, omissions, and deceptions; and their failure to pursue less hazardous
18 alternatives available to them, Defendants, individually and together, have substantially and
19 measurably contributed to the Plaintiffs' sea level rise-related injuries.

20 **D. Defendants Went to Great Lengths to Understand the Hazards Associated**
21 **with and Knew or Should Have Known of the Dangers Associated with the**
Extraction, Promotion and Sale of Their Fossil Fuel Products.

22 81. By 1965, concern about the risks of anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions
23 reached the highest level of the United States' scientific community. In that year, President Lyndon
24 B. Johnson's Science Advisory Committee Panel on Environmental Pollution reported that by the
25 year 2000, anthropogenic CO₂ emissions would "modify the heat balance of the atmosphere to
26

27 ⁶⁶ Peter U. Clark et al., Consequences of Twenty-First-Century Policy for Multi-Millennial Climate and Sea-Level
28 Change, Nature Climate Change Vol. 6, 365 (2016).

1 such an extent that marked changes in climate . . . could occur.”⁶⁷ President Johnson announced
2 in a special message to Congress that “[t]his generation has altered the composition of the
3 atmosphere on a global scale through . . . a steady increase in carbon dioxide from the burning of
4 fossil fuels.”⁶⁸

5 82. These statements from the Johnson Administration, at a minimum, put Defendants
6 on notice of the potentially substantial dangers to people, communities, and the planet associated
7 with unabated use of their fossil fuel products. Moreover, Defendants had amassed a considerable
8 body of knowledge on the subject through their own independent efforts.

9 83. In 1968, a Stanford Research Institute (SRI) report commissioned by the American
10 Petroleum Institute (“API”) and made available to all of its members, concluded, among
11 other things:

12 If the Earth’s temperature increases significantly, a number of events might be
13 expected to occur including the melting of the Antarctic ice cap, a rise in sea levels,
warming of the oceans and an increase in photosynthesis. . . .

14 It is clear that we are unsure as to what our long-lived pollutants are doing to our
15 environment; however, there seems to be no doubt that the potential damage to our
16 environment could be severe. . . . [T]he prospect for the future must be of serious
concern.⁶⁹

17 84. In 1969, Shell memorialized an on-going 18-month project to collect ocean data
18 from oil platforms to develop and calibrate environmental forecasting theories related to predicting
19 wave, wind, storm, sea level, and current changes and trends.⁷⁰ Several Defendants and/or their
20 predecessors in interest participated in the project, including Esso Production Research Company
21 (ExxonMobil), Mobil Research and Development Company (ExxonMobil), Pan American
22 Petroleum Corporation (BP), Gulf Oil Corporation (Chevron), Texaco Inc. (Chevron), and the
23 Chevron Oil Field Research Company.

24
25 ⁶⁷ President’s Science Advisory Committee, Restoring the Quality of Our Environment: Report of the
Environmental Pollution Panel, page 9 (November 1965), <https://hdl.handle.net/2027/uc1.b4315678>.

26 ⁶⁸ President Lyndon B. Johnson, Special Message to Congress on Conservation and Restoration of Natural Beauty
(February 8, 1965), <http://acsc.lib.udel.edu/items/show/292>.

27 ⁶⁹ Elmer Robinson and R.C. Robbins, Sources, Abundance, and Fate of Gaseous Atmospheric Pollutants, Stanford
Research Institute (February 1968), <https://www.smokeandfumes.org/documents/document16>.

28 ⁷⁰ M.M. Patterson, An Ocean Data Gathering Program for the Gulf of Mexico, Society of Petroleum Engineers
(1969), <https://www.onepetro.org/conference-paper/SPE-2638-MS>.

85. In 1972, API members, including Defendants, received a status report on all environmental research projects funded by API. The report summarized the 1968 SRI report describing the impact of Defendants' fossil fuel products on the environment, including global warming and sea level rise. Industry participants who received this report include: American Standard of Indiana (BP), Asiatic (Shell), Ashland (Marathon), Atlantic Richfield (BP), British Petroleum (BP), Chevron Standard of California (Chevron), Cities Service (Citgo), Continental (ConocoPhillips), Dupont (former owner of Conoco), Esso Research (ExxonMobil), Ethyl (formerly affiliated with Esso, which was subsumed by ExxonMobil), Getty (Lukoil/ExxonMobil), Gulf (Chevron, among others), Humble Standard of New Jersey (ExxonMobil/Chevron/BP), Marathon, Mobil (ExxonMobil), Pan American (BP), Phillips (ConocoPhillips), Shell, Standard of Ohio (BP), Texaco (Chevron), Union (Chevron), Edison Electric Institute (representing electric utilities), Bituminous Coal Research (coal industry research group), Mid-Continent Oil & Gas Association (presently the U.S. Oil & Gas Association, a national trade association), Western Oil & Gas Association, National Petroleum Refiners Association (presently the American Fuel and Petrochemical Manufacturers Association, a national trade association), Champlin (Anadarko), Skelly (Lukoil/ExxonMobil), Colonial Pipeline (ownership has included BP, Citgo, ExxonMobil, ConocoPhillips, Chevron entities, among others) and Caltex (Chevron), among others.⁷¹

86. In a 1977 presentation and again in a 1978 briefing, Exxon scientists warned the Exxon Corporation Management Committee that CO₂ concentrations were building in the Earth's atmosphere at an increasing rate, that CO₂ emissions attributable to fossil fuels were retained in the atmosphere, and that CO₂ was contributing to global warming.⁷² The report stated:

There is general scientific agreement that the most likely manner in which mankind is influencing the global climate is through carbon dioxide release from the burning of fossil fuels . . . [and that] Man has a time window of five to ten years before the

⁷¹ American Petroleum Institute, Environmental Research. A Status Report, Committee for Air and Water Conservation (January 1972), <http://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/ED066339.pdf>.

⁷² Memo from J.F. Black to F.G. Turpin, The Greenhouse Effect, Exxon Research and Engineering Company (June 6, 1978), <http://www.climatefiles.com/exxonmobil/1978-exxon-memo-on-greenhouse-effect-for-exxon-corporation-management-committee/>.

1 need for hard decisions regarding changes in energy strategies might become
2 critical.⁷³

3 87. Thereafter, Exxon engaged in a research program to study the environmental fate
4 of fossil fuel-derived greenhouse gases and their impacts, which included publication of peer-
5 reviewed research by Exxon staff scientists and the conversion of a supertanker into a research
6 vessel to study the greenhouse effect and the role of the oceans in absorbing anthropogenic CO₂.
7 Much of this research was shared in a variety of fora, symposia, and shared papers through trade
8 associations and directly with other Defendants.

9 88. Exxon scientists made the case internally for using company resources to build
10 corporate knowledge about the impacts of the promotion, marketing, and consumption of
11 Defendants' fossil fuel products. Exxon climate researcher Henry Shaw wrote in 1978: "The
12 rationale for Exxon's involvement and commitment of funds and personnel is based on our need
13 to assess the possible impact of the greenhouse effect on Exxon business. Exxon must develop a
14 credible scientific team that can critically evaluate the information generated on the subject and be
15 able to carry bad news, if any, to the corporation."⁷⁴ Moreover, Shaw emphasized the need to
16 collaborate with universities and government to more completely understand what he called the
17 "CO₂ problem."⁷⁵

18 89. In 1979, API and its members, including Defendants, convened a Task Force to
19 monitor and share cutting edge climate research among the oil industry. The group was initially
20 called the CO₂ and Climate Task Force, but changed its name to the Climate and Energy Task
21 Force in 1980 (hereinafter referred to as "API CO₂ Task Force"). Membership included senior
22 scientists and engineers from nearly every major U.S. and multinational oil and gas company,
23 including Exxon, Mobil (ExxonMobil), Amoco (BP), Phillips (ConocoPhillips), Texaco
24 (Chevron), Shell, Sunoco, Sohio (BP) as well as Standard Oil of California (BP) and Gulf Oil

26 ⁷³ Id.

27 ⁷⁴ Henry Shaw, Memo to Edward David Jr. on the "Greenhouse Effect", Exxon Research and Engineering Company
28 (December 7, 1978).

28 ⁷⁵ Id.

1 (Chevron, among others). The Task Force was charged with assessing the implications of emerging
2 science on the petroleum and gas industries and identifying where reductions in greenhouse gas
3 emissions from Defendants' fossil fuel products could be made.⁷⁶

4 90. In 1979, API sent its members a background memo related to the API CO₂ and
5 Climate Task Force's efforts, stating that CO₂ concentrations were rising steadily in the
6 atmosphere, and predicting when the first clear effects of climate change might be felt.⁷⁷

7 91. Also in 1979, Exxon scientists advocated internally for additional fossil fuel
8 industry-generated atmospheric research in light of the growing consensus that consumption of
9 fossil fuel products was changing the Earth's climate:

10 "We should determine how Exxon can best participate in all these [atmospheric
11 science research] areas and influence possible legislation on environmental
12 controls. It is important to begin to anticipate the strong intervention of
13 environmental groups and be prepared to respond with reliable and credible data. It
14 behooves [Exxon] to start a very aggressive defensive program in the indicated
15 areas of atmospheric science and climate because there is a good probability that
16 legislation affecting our business will be passed. Clearly, it is in our interest for
such legislation to be based on hard scientific data. The data obtained from research
on the global damage from pollution, e.g., from coal combustion, will give us the
needed focus for further research to avoid or control such pollutants."⁷⁸

17 92. That same year, Exxon Research and Engineering reported that: "The most widely
18 held theory [about increasing CO₂ concentration] is that the increase is due to fossil fuel
19 combustion, increasing CO₂ concentration will cause a warming of the earth's surface, and the
20 present trend of fossil fuel consumption will cause dramatic environmental effects before the year
21
22
23

24 ⁷⁶ American Petroleum Institute, AQ-9 Task Force Meeting Minutes (March 18, 1980),
25 [http://insideclimatenews.org/sites/default/files/documents/AQ-](http://insideclimatenews.org/sites/default/files/documents/AQ-9%20Task%20Force%20Meeting%20%281980%29.pdf)

26 [9%20Task%20Force%20Meeting%20%281980%29.pdf](http://insideclimatenews.org/sites/default/files/documents/AQ-9%20Task%20Force%20Meeting%20%281980%29.pdf) (AQ-9 refers to the "CO₂ and Climate" Task Force).
⁷⁷ Neela Banerjee, Exxon's Oil Industry Peers Knew About Climate Dangers in the 1970s, Too, Inside Climate
27 News (December 22, 2015), [https://insideclimatenews.org/news/22122015/exxon-mobil-oil-industry-peers-knew-](https://insideclimatenews.org/news/22122015/exxon-mobil-oil-industry-peers-knew-about-climate-change-dangers-1970s-american-petroleum-institute-api-shell-chevron-texaco)
28 [about-climate-change-dangers-1970s-american-petroleum-institute-api-shell-chevron-texaco](https://insideclimatenews.org/news/22122015/exxon-mobil-oil-industry-peers-knew-about-climate-change-dangers-1970s-american-petroleum-institute-api-shell-chevron-texaco).

⁷⁸ Henry Shaw, Exxon Memo to H.N. Weinberg about "Research in Atmospheric Science", Exxon Inter-Office
Correspondence (November 19, 1979),
[https://insideclimatenews.org/sites/default/files/documents/Probable%20Legislation%20Memo%20\(1979\).pdf](https://insideclimatenews.org/sites/default/files/documents/Probable%20Legislation%20Memo%20(1979).pdf).

1 2050.”⁷⁹ Further, the report stated that unless fossil fuel use was constrained, there would be
2 “noticeable temperature changes” associated with an increase in atmospheric CO₂ from about 280
3 parts per million before the Industrial Revolution to 400 parts per million by the year 2010.⁸⁰ Those
4 projections proved remarkably accurate—atmospheric CO₂ concentrations surpassed 400 parts per
5 million in May 2013, for the first time in millions of years.⁸¹ In 2015, the annual average CO₂
6 concentration rose above 400 parts per million, and in 2016 the annual low surpassed 400 parts
7 per million, meaning atmospheric CO₂ concentration remained above that threshold all year.⁸²

8 93. In 1980, API’s CO₂ Task Force members discussed the oil industry’s responsibility
9 to reduce CO₂ emissions by changing refining processes and developing fuels that emit less CO₂.
10 The minutes from the Task Force’s February 29, 1980, meeting included a summary of a
11 presentation on “The CO₂ Problem” given by Dr. John Laurmann, which identified the “scientific
12 consensus on the potential for large future climatic response to increased CO₂ levels” as a reason
13 for API members to have concern with the “CO₂ problem” and informed attendees that there was
14 “strong empirical evidence that rise [in CO₂ concentration was] caused by anthropogenic release
15 of CO₂, mainly from fossil fuel combustion.”⁸³ Moreover, Dr. Laurmann warned that the amount
16 of CO₂ in the atmosphere could double by 2038, which he said would likely lead to a 2.5° C (4.5°
17 F) rise in global average temperatures with “major economic consequences.” He then told the Task
18 Force that models showed a 5°C (9° F) rise by 2067, with “globally catastrophic effects.”⁸⁴ A
19 taskforce member and representative of Texaco leadership present at the meeting posited that the
20 API CO₂ Task Force should develop ground rules for energy release of fuels and the cleanup of
21 fuels as they relate to CO₂ creation.

22
23 ⁷⁹ W.L. Ferrall, Exxon Memo to R.L. Hirsch about “Controlling Atmospheric CO₂”, Exxon Research and
24 Engineering Company (October 16, 1979),
<http://insideclimatenews.org/sites/default/files/documents/CO2%20and%20Fuel%20Use%20Projections.pdf>.

25 ⁸⁰ Id.

26 ⁸¹ Nicola Jones, How the World Passed a Carbon Threshold and Why it Matters, Yale Environment 360 (Jan. 26,
2017), <http://e360.yale.edu/features/how-the-world-passed-a-carbon-threshold-400ppm-and-why-it-matters>.

27 ⁸² Id.

28 ⁸³ American Petroleum Institute, AQ-9 Task Force Meeting Minutes (March 18, 1980),
<http://insideclimatenews.org/sites/default/files/documents/AQ-9%20Task%20Force%20Meeting%20%281980%29.pdf> (AQ-9 refers to the “CO₂ and Climate” Task Force).

⁸⁴ Id.

1 94. In 1980, the API CO₂ Task Force also discussed a potential area for investigation:
2 alternative energy sources as a means of mitigating CO₂ emissions from Defendants' fossil fuel
3 products. These efforts called for research and development to "Investigate the Market Penetration
4 Requirements of Introducing a New Energy Source into World Wide Use." Such investigation was
5 to include the technical implications of energy source changeover, research timing, and
6 requirements.⁸⁵

7 95. By 1980, Exxon's senior leadership had become intimately familiar with the
8 greenhouse effect and the role of CO₂ in the atmosphere. In that year, Exxon Senior Vice President
9 and Board member George Piercy questioned Exxon researchers on the minutiae of the ocean's
10 role in absorbing atmospheric CO₂, including whether there was a net CO₂ flux out of the ocean
11 into the atmosphere in certain zones where upwelling of cold water to the surface occurs, because
12 Piercy evidently believed that the oceans could absorb and retain higher concentrations of CO₂
13 than the atmosphere.⁸⁶ This inquiry aligns with Exxon supertanker research into whether the ocean
14 would act as a significant CO₂ sink that would sequester atmospheric CO₂ long enough to allow
15 unabated emissions without triggering dire climatic consequences. As described below, Exxon
16 eventually scrapped this research before it produced enough data from which to derive a
17 conclusion.⁸⁷

18 96. Also in 1980, Imperial Oil (ExxonMobil) reported to Esso and Exxon managers
19 and environmental staff that increases in fossil fuel usage aggravates CO₂ in the atmosphere.
20 Noting that the United Nations was encouraging research into the carbon cycle, Imperial reported
21 that "[t]echnology exists to remove CO₂ from [fossil fuel power plant] stack gases but removal of
22 only 50% of the CO₂ would double the cost of power generation." Imperial also reported that its
23 coordination department had been internally evaluating its and Exxon's products to determine
24

25 _____
⁸⁵ *Id.*

26 ⁸⁶ Neela Banerjee, More Exxon Documents Show How Much It Knew About Climate 35 Years Ago, Inside Climate
27 News (Dec. 1, 2015), <https://insideclimatenews.org/news/01122015/documents-exxons-early-co2-position-senior-executives-engage-and-warming-forecast>.

28 ⁸⁷ Neela Banerjee et al., Exxon Believed Deep Dive Into Climate Research Would Protect Its Business, Inside Climate News (Sept. 17, 2015), <https://insideclimatenews.org/news/16092015/exxon-believed-deep-dive-into-climate-research-would-protect-its-business>.

1 whether disclosure of a human health hazard was necessary. The report notes that Section (8e) of
2 Toxic Substances Control Act, 55 U.S.C. §§ 1601 et seq., requires that anyone who discovers that
3 a material or substance in commercial use is or may be a significant risk to human health must
4 report such findings to the Environmental Protection Agency within 15 days. Although greenhouse
5 gases are human health hazards (because they have serious consequences in terms of global food
6 production, disease virulence, and sanitation infrastructure, among other impacts), neither
7 Imperial, Exxon, nor any other Defendant has ever filed a disclosure with the U.S. Environmental
8 Protection Agency pursuant to the Toxic Substances Control Act. Exxon scientist Roger Cohen
9 warned his colleagues in a 1981 internal memorandum that “future developments in global data
10 gathering and analysis, along with advances in climate modeling, may provide strong evidence for
11 a delayed CO₂ effect of a truly substantial magnitude,” and that under certain circumstances it
12 would be “very likely that we will unambiguously recognize the threat by the year 2000.”⁸⁸ Cohen
13 had expressed concern that the memorandum mischaracterized potential effects of unabated CO₂
14 emissions from Defendants’ fossil fuel products: “. . . it is distinctly possible that the . . . [Exxon
15 Planning Division’s] scenario will produce effects which will indeed be catastrophic (at least for
16 a substantial fraction of the world’s population).”⁸⁹

17 97. In 1981, Exxon’s Henry Shaw, the company’s lead climate researcher at the time,
18 prepared a summary of Exxon’s current position on the greenhouse effect for Edward David Jr.,
19 president of Exxon Research and Engineering, stating in relevant part:

- 20 • “Atmospheric CO₂ will double in 100 years if fossil fuels grow at 1.4%/ a².
- 21 • 3°C global average temperature rise and 10°C at poles if CO₂ doubles.
 - 22 ○ Major shifts in rainfall/agriculture
 - 23 ○ Polar ice may melt”⁹⁰

24
25 ⁸⁸ Roger W. Cohen, Exxon Memo to W. Glass about possible “catastrophic” effect of CO₂, Exxon Inter-Office
26 Correspondence (Aug. 18, 1981), [http://www.climatefiles.com/exxonmobil/1981-exxon-memo-on-possible-](http://www.climatefiles.com/exxonmobil/1981-exxon-memo-on-possible-emission-consequences-of-fossil-fuel-consumption/)
[emission-consequences-of-fossil-fuel-consumption/](http://www.climatefiles.com/exxonmobil/1981-exxon-memo-on-possible-emission-consequences-of-fossil-fuel-consumption/).

27 ⁸⁹ Id.

28 ⁹⁰ Henry Shaw, Exxon Memo to E. E. David, Jr. about “CO₂Position Statement”, Exxon Inter-Office
Correspondence (May 15, 1981),
<https://insideclimatenews.org/sites/default/files/documents/Exxon%20Position%20on%20CO2%20%281981%29.pdf>
f.

1 98. In 1982, another report prepared for API by scientists at the Lamont-Doherty
2 Geological Observatory at Columbia University recognized that atmospheric CO₂ concentration
3 had risen significantly compared to the beginning of the industrial revolution from about 290 parts
4 per million to about 340 parts per million in 1981 and acknowledged that despite differences in
5 climate modelers' predictions, all models indicated a temperature increase caused by
6 anthropogenic CO₂ within a global mean range of 4° C (7.2° F). The report advised that there was
7 scientific consensus that "a doubling of atmospheric CO₂ from [] pre-industrial revolution value
8 would result in an average global temperature rise of (3.0 ± 1.5)°C [5.4 ± 2.7° F]." It went further,
9 warning that "[s]uch a warming can have serious consequences for man's comfort and survival
10 since patterns of aridity and rainfall can change, the height of the sea level can increase
11 considerably and the world food supply can be affected."⁹¹ Exxon's own modeling research
12 confirmed this, and the company's results were later published in at least three peer-reviewed
13 scientific papers.⁹²

14 99. Also in 1982, Exxon's Environmental Affairs Manager distributed a primer on
15 climate change to a "wide circulation [of] Exxon management . . . intended to familiarize Exxon
16 personnel with the subject."⁹³ The primer also was "restricted to Exxon personnel and not to be
17 distributed externally."⁹⁴ The primer compiled science on climate change available at the time,
18 and confirmed fossil fuel combustion as a primary anthropogenic contributor to global warming.
19 The report estimated a CO₂ doubling around 2090 based on Exxon's long-range modeled outlook.
20 The author warned that the melting of the Antarctic ice sheet could result in global sea level rise
21

22
23 ⁹¹ American Petroleum Institute, Climate Models and CO₂ Warming: A Selective Review and Summary, Lamont-
Doherty Geological Observatory (Columbia University) (March 1982),
<https://assets.documentcloud.org/documents/2805626/1982-API-Climate-Models-and-CO2-Warming-a.pdf>.

24 ⁹² See Roger W. Cohen, Exxon Memo summarizing findings of research in climate modeling, Exxon Research and
25 Engineering Company (September 2, 1982),
[https://insideclimatenews.org/sites/default/files/documents/%2522Consensus%2522%20on%20CO2%20Impacts%20\(1982\).pdf](https://insideclimatenews.org/sites/default/files/documents/%2522Consensus%2522%20on%20CO2%20Impacts%20(1982).pdf). (discussing research articles).

26 ⁹³ M. B. Glaser, Exxon Memo to Management about "CO₂ 'Greenhouse' Effect", Exxon Research and Engineering
27 Company (November 12, 1982),
<http://insideclimatenews.org/sites/default/files/documents/1982%20Exxon%20Primer%20on%20CO2%20Greenhouse%20Effect.pdf>.

28 ⁹⁴ Id.

1 of five feet which would “cause flooding on much of the U.S. East Coast, including the State of
2 Florida and Washington, D.C.”⁹⁵ Indeed, it warned that “there are some potentially catastrophic
3 events that must be considered,” including sea level rise from melting polar ice sheets. It noted
4 that some scientific groups were concerned “that once the effects are measurable, they might not
5 be reversible.”⁹⁶

6 100. In a summary of Exxon’s climate modeling research from 1982, Director of
7 Exxon’s Theoretical and Mathematical Sciences Laboratory Roger Cohen wrote that “the time
8 required for doubling of atmospheric CO₂ depends on future world consumption of fossil fuels.”
9 Cohen concluded that Exxon’s own results were “consistent with the published predictions of more
10 complex climate models” and “in accord with the scientific consensus on the effect of increased
11 atmospheric CO₂ on climate.”⁹⁷

12 101. At the fourth biennial Maurice Ewing Symposium at the Lamont-Doherty
13 Geophysical Observatory in October 1982, attended by members of API, Exxon Research and
14 Engineering Company president E.E. David delivered a speech titled: “Inventing the Future:
15 Energy and the CO₂ ‘Greenhouse Effect.’”⁹⁸ His remarks included the following statement: “[F]ew
16 people doubt that the world has entered an energy transition away from dependence upon fossil
17 fuels and toward some mix of renewable resources that will not pose problems of CO₂
18 accumulation.” He went on, discussing the human opportunity to address anthropogenic climate
19 change before the point of no return:

20
21 It is ironic that the biggest uncertainties about the CO₂ buildup are not in predicting
22 what the climate will do, but in predicting what people will do. . . . [It] appears we
23 still have time to generate the wealth and knowledge we will need to invent the
24 transition to a stable energy system.

25 ⁹⁵ Id.

26 ⁹⁶ Id.

27 ⁹⁷ Roger W. Cohen, Exxon Memo summarizing findings of research in climate modeling, Exxon Research and
Engineering Company (September 2, 1982),
[https://insideclimatenews.org/sites/default/files/documents/%2522Consensus%2522%20on%20CO2%20Impacts%20\(1982\).pdf](https://insideclimatenews.org/sites/default/files/documents/%2522Consensus%2522%20on%20CO2%20Impacts%20(1982).pdf).

28 ⁹⁸ E. E. David, Jr., Inventing the Future: Energy and the CO₂ Greenhouse Effect: Remarks at the Fourth Annual Ewing Symposium, Tenaflly, NJ (1982), <http://sites.agu.org/publications/files/2015/09/ch1.pdf>.

1 102. Throughout the early 1980s, at Exxon's direction, Exxon climate scientist Henry
2 Shaw forecasted emissions of CO₂ from fossil fuel use. Those estimates were incorporated into
3 Exxon's 21st century energy projections and were distributed among Exxon's various divisions.
4 Shaw's conclusions included an expectation that atmospheric CO₂ concentrations would double in
5 2090 per the Exxon model, with an attendant 2.3–5.6° F average global temperature increase. Shaw
6 compared his model results to those of the U.S. EPA, the National Academy of Sciences, and the
7 Massachusetts Institute of Technology, indicating that the Exxon model predicted a longer delay
8 than any of the other models, although its temperature increase prediction was in the mid-range of
9 the four projections.⁹⁹

10 103. During the 1980s, many Defendants formed their own research units focused on
11 climate modeling. The API, including the API CO₂ Task Force, provided a forum for Defendants
12 to share their research efforts and corroborate their findings related to anthropogenic greenhouse
13 gas emissions.¹⁰⁰

14 104. During this time, Defendants' statements express an understanding of their
15 obligation to consider and mitigate the externalities of unabated promotion, marketing, and sale of
16 their fossil fuel products. For example, in 1988, Richard Tucker, the president of Mobil Oil,
17 presented at the American Institute of Chemical Engineers National Meeting, the premier
18 educational forum for chemical engineers, where he stated:

19
20 [H]umanity, which has created the industrial system that has transformed civilities,
21 is also responsible for the environment, which sometimes is at risk because of
22 unintended consequences of industrialization. . . . Maintaining the health of this
23 life-support system is emerging as one of the highest priorities. . . . [W]e must all
24 be environmentalists.

25
26 The environmental covenant requires action on many fronts...the low-atmosphere
27 ozone problem, the upper-atmosphere ozone problem and the greenhouse effect,
28

26 ⁹⁹ Neela Banerjee, More Exxon Documents Show How Much It Knew About Climate 35 Years Ago, Inside Climate
27 News (Dec. 1, 2015), <https://insideclimatenews.org/news/01122015/documents-exxons-early-co2-position-senior-executives-engage-and-warming-forecast>.

28 ¹⁰⁰ Neela Banerjee, Exxon's Oil Industry Peers Knew About Climate Dangers in the 1970s, Too, Inside Climate
News (December 22, 2015), <https://insideclimatenews.org/news/22122015/exxon-mobil-oil-industry-peers-knew-about-climate-change-dangers-1970s-american-petroleum-institute-api-shell-chevron-texaco>.

1 to name a few. . . . Our strategy must be to reduce pollution before it is ever
2 generated – to prevent problems at the source.

3 Prevention means engineering a new generation of fuels, lubricants and chemical
4 products. . . . Prevention means designing catalysts and processes that minimize
5 or eliminate the production of unwanted byproducts. . . . Prevention on a global
6 scale may even require a dramatic reduction in our dependence on fossil fuels—
7 and a shift towards solar, hydrogen, and safe nuclear power. It may be possible
that—just possible—that the energy industry will transform itself so completely
that observers will declare it a new industry. . . . Brute force, low-tech responses
and money alone won’t meet the challenges we face in the energy industry.¹⁰¹

8 105. In 1989, Esso Resources Canada (ExxonMobil) commissioned a report on the
9 impacts of climate change on existing and proposed natural gas facilities in the Mackenzie River
10 Valley and Delta, including extraction facilities on the Beaufort Sea and a pipeline crossing
11 Canada’s Northwest Territory.¹⁰² It reported that “large zones of the Mackenzie Valley could be
12 affected dramatically by climatic change” and that “the greatest concern in Norman Wells [oil
13 town in North West Territories, Canada] should be the changes in permafrost that are likely to
14 occur under conditions of climate warming.” The report concluded that, in light of climate models
15 showing a “general tendency towards warmer and wetter climate,” operation of those facilities
16 would be compromised by increased precipitation, increase in air temperature, changes in
17 permafrost conditions, and significantly, sea level rise and erosion damage.¹⁰³ The authors
18 recommended factoring these eventualities into future development planning and also warned that
19 “a rise in sea level could cause increased flooding and erosion damage on Richards Island.”

20 106. In 1991, Shell produced a film called “Climate of Concern.” The film advises that
21 while “no two [climate change projection] scenarios fully agree . . . [they] have each prompted the
22 same serious warning. A warning endorsed by a uniquely broad consensus of scientists in their
23 report to the UN at the end of 1990.” The warning was an increasing frequency of abnormal
24 weather, and of sea level rise of about one meter over the coming century. Shell specifically
25

26 ¹⁰¹ Richard E. Tucker, High Tech Frontiers in the Energy Industry: The Challenge Ahead, AICHe National Meeting
(November 30, 1988), <https://hdl.handle.net/2027/purl.32754074119482?urlappend=%3Bseq=522>.

27 ¹⁰² Stephen Lonergan and Kathy Young, An Assessment of the Effects of Climate Warming on Energy
28 Developments in the Mackenzie River Valley and Delta, Canadian Arctic, Energy Exploration & Exploitation, Vol.
7, Issue 5 (Oct. 1, 1989), <http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/014459878900700508>.

¹⁰³ Id.

1 described the impacts of anthropogenic sea level rise on tropical islands, “barely afloat even now
2 . . . [f]irst made uninhabitable and then obliterated beneath the waves. Wetland habitats destroyed
3 by intruding salt. Coastal lowlands suffering pollution of precious groundwater.” It warned of
4 “greenhouse refugees,” people who abandoned homelands inundated by the sea, or displaced
5 because of catastrophic changes to the environment. The video concludes with a stark admonition:
6 “Global warming is not yet certain, but many think that the wait for final proof would be
7 irresponsible. Action now is seen as the only safe insurance.”¹⁰⁴

8 107. In the mid-1990s, ExxonMobil, Shell and Imperial Oil (ExxonMobil) jointly
9 undertook the Sable Offshore Energy Project in Nova Scotia. The project’s own Environmental
10 Impact Statement declared: “The impact of a global warming sea-level rise may be particularly
11 significant in Nova Scotia. The long-term tide gauge records at a number of locations along the
12 N.S. coast have shown sea level has been rising over the past century For the design of coastal
13 and offshore structures, an estimated rise in water level, due to global warming, of 0.5 m [1.64
14 feet] may be assumed for the proposed project life (25 years).”¹⁰⁵

15 108. Climate change research conducted by Defendants and their industry associations
16 frequently acknowledged uncertainties in their climate modeling—those uncertainties, however,
17 were merely with respect to the magnitude and timing of climate impacts resulting from fossil fuel
18 consumption, not that significant changes would eventually occur. The Defendants’ researchers
19 and the researchers at their industry associations harbored little doubt that climate change was
20 occurring and that fossil fuel products were, and are, the primary cause.

21 109. Despite the overwhelming information about the threats to people and the planet
22 posed by continued unabated use of their fossil fuel products, Defendants failed to act as they
23 reasonably should have to mitigate or avoid those dire adverse impacts. Defendants instead
24 adopted the position, as described below, that the absence of meaningful regulations on the
25

26 ¹⁰⁴Jelmer Mommers, *Shell made a film about climate change in 1991 (then neglected to heed its own warning)*, de
27 Correspondent (Feb. 27, 2017), <https://thecorrespondent.com/6285/shell-made-a-film-about-climate-change-in-1991-then-neglected-to-heed-its-own-warning/692663565-875331f6>.

28 ¹⁰⁵ ExxonMobil, Sable Project, Development Plan, *Volume 3 – Environmental Impact Statement*
<http://soep.com/about-the-project/development-plan-application/>.

1 consumption of their fossil fuel products was the equivalent of a social license to continue the
2 unfettered pursuit of profits from those products. This position was an abdication of Defendants'
3 responsibility to consumers and the public, including Plaintiffs, to act on their unique knowledge
4 of the reasonably foreseeable hazards of unabated production and consumption of their fossil
5 fuel products.

6 **E. Defendants Did Not Disclose Known Harms Associated with the Extraction,**
7 **Promotion and Consumption of Their Fossil Fuel Products and Instead**
8 **Affirmatively Acted to Obscure Those Harms and Engaged in a Concerted**
Campaign to Evade Regulation.

9 110. By 1988, Defendants had amassed a compelling body of knowledge about the role
10 of anthropogenic greenhouse gases, and specifically those emitted from the normal use of
11 Defendants' fossil fuel products, in causing global warming and sea level rise and the attendant
12 consequences for human communities and the environment. On notice that their products were
13 causing global climate change and dire effects on the planet, Defendants were faced with the
14 decision of whether to take steps to limit the damages their fossil fuel products were causing and
15 would continue to cause for virtually every one of Earth's inhabitants, including the People of the
16 State of California, and the County of San Mateo and its citizens.

17 111. Defendants at any time before or thereafter could and should reasonably have taken
18 any of a number of steps to mitigate the damages caused by their fossil fuel products, and their
19 own comments reveal an awareness of what some of these steps may have been. Defendants should
20 have made reasonable warnings to consumers, the public, and regulators of the dangers known to
21 Defendants of the unabated consumption of their fossil fuel products, and they should have taken
22 reasonable steps to limit the potential greenhouse gas emissions arising out of their fossil
23 fuel products.

24 112. But several key events during the period 1988–1992 appear to have prompted
25 Defendants to change their tactics from general research and internal discussion on climate change
26 to a public campaign aimed at evading regulation of their fossil fuel products and/or emissions
27 therefrom. These include:
28

- 1 a. In 1988, National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) scientists
2 confirmed that human activities were actually contributing to global
3 warming.¹⁰⁶ On June 23 of that year, NASA scientist James Hansen's
4 presentation of this information to Congress engendered significant news
5 coverage and publicity for the announcement, including coverage on the
6 front page of the New York Times.
- 7 b. On July 28, 1988, Senator Robert Stafford and four bipartisan co-sponsors
8 introduced S. 2666, "The Global Environmental Protection Act," to regulate
9 CO₂ and other greenhouse gases. Four more bipartisan bills to significantly
10 reduce CO₂ pollution were introduced over the following ten weeks, and in
11 August, U.S. Presidential candidate George H.W. Bush pledged that his
12 presidency would "combat the greenhouse effect with the White House
13 effect."¹⁰⁷ Political will in the United States to reduce anthropogenic
14 greenhouse gas emissions and mitigate the harms associated with
15 Defendants' fossil fuel products was gaining momentum.
- 16 c. In December 1988, the United Nations formed the Intergovernmental Panel
17 on Climate Change (IPCC), a scientific panel dedicated to providing the
18 world's governments with an objective, scientific analysis of climate
19 change and its environmental, political, and economic impacts.
- 20 d. In 1990, the IPCC published its First Assessment Report on anthropogenic
21 climate change,¹⁰⁸ in which it concluded that (1) "there is a natural
22 greenhouse effect which already keeps the Earth warmer than it would
23 otherwise be," and (2) that

24
25
26 ¹⁰⁶ See Peter C. Frumhoff et al., The Climate Responsibilities of Industrial Carbon Producers, Climatic Change, Vol. 132, 161 (2015).

27 ¹⁰⁷ New York Times, The White House and the Greenhouse, May 9, 1998,
<http://www.nytimes.com/1989/05/09/opinion/the-white-house-and-the-greenhouse.html>.

28 ¹⁰⁸ See IPCC, Reports, http://www.ipcc.ch/publications_and_data/publications_and_data_reports.shtml.

emissions resulting from human activities are substantially increasing the atmospheric concentrations of the greenhouse gases carbon dioxide, methane, chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) and nitrous oxide. These increases will enhance the greenhouse effect, resulting on average in an additional warming of the Earth's surface. The main greenhouse gas, water vapour, will increase in response to global warming and further enhance it.¹⁰⁹

The IPCC reconfirmed these conclusions in a 1992 supplement to the First Assessment report.¹¹⁰

- e. The United Nations began preparation for the 1992 Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, a major, newsworthy gathering of 172 world governments, of which 116 sent their heads of state. The Summit resulted in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), an international environmental treaty providing protocols for future negotiations aimed at “stabiliz[ing] greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that would prevent dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system.”¹¹¹

113. These world events marked a shift in public discussion of climate change, and the initiation of international efforts to curb anthropogenic greenhouse emissions – developments that had stark implications for, and would have diminished the profitability of, Defendants’ fossil fuel products.

114. But rather than collaborating with the international community by acting to forestall, or at least decrease, their fossil fuel products’ contributions to global warming, sea level rise, and injuries to San Mateo and other coastal communities, Defendants embarked on a decades-long campaign designed to maximize continued dependence on their products and undermine national and international efforts like the Kyoto Protocol to rein in greenhouse gas emissions.

¹⁰⁹ IPCC, Climate Change: The IPCC Scientific Assessment, Policymakers Summary (1990), http://www.ipcc.ch/ipccreports/far/wg_I/ipcc_far_wg_I_spm.pdf.

¹¹⁰ IPCC, 1992 IPCC Supplement to the First Assessment Report (1992), http://www.ipcc.ch/publications_and_data/publications_ipcc_90_92_assessments_far.shtml.

¹¹¹ United Nations, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Article 2 (1992), <https://unfccc.int/resource/docs/convkp/conveng.pdf>.

1 115. Defendants' campaign, which focused on concealing, discrediting, and/or
2 misrepresenting information that tended to support restricting consumption of (and thereby
3 decreasing demand for) Defendants' fossil fuel products, took several forms. The campaign
4 enabled Defendants to accelerate their business practice of exploiting fossil fuel reserves, and
5 concurrently externalize the social and environmental costs of their fossil fuel products. These
6 activities stood in direct contradiction to Defendants' own prior recognition that the science of
7 anthropogenic climate change was clear and that the greatest uncertainties involved responsive
8 human behavior, not scientific understanding of the issue.

9 116. Defendants took affirmative steps to conceal, from Plaintiffs and the general public,
10 the foreseeable impacts of the use of their fossil fuel products on the Earth's climate and associated
11 harms to people and communities. Defendants embarked on a concerted public relations campaign
12 to cast doubt on the science connecting global climate change to fossil fuel products and
13 greenhouse gas emissions, in order to influence public perception of the existence of anthropogenic
14 global warming and sea level rise. The effort included promoting their hazardous products through
15 advertising campaigns and the initiation and funding of climate change denialist organizations,
16 designed to influence consumers to continue using Defendants' fossil fuel products irrespective of
17 those products' damage to communities and the environment.

18 117. For example, in 1988, Joseph Carlson, an Exxon public affairs manager, described
19 the "Exxon Position," which included among others, two important messaging tenets: (1)
20 "[e]mphasize the uncertainty in scientific conclusions regarding the potential enhanced
21 Greenhouse Effect;" and (2) "[r]esist the overstatement and sensationalization [sic] of potential
22 greenhouse effect which could lead to noneconomic development of non-fossil fuel resources."¹¹²

23 118. In 1991, for example, the Information Council for the Environment ("ICE"), whose
24 members included affiliates, predecessors and/or subsidiaries of Defendants, including Peabody,
25 Ohio Valley Coal Company (Murray Energy), Pittsburg and Midway Coal Mining (Chevron), and
26 Island Creek Coal Company (Occidental), launched a national climate change science denial
27

28 ¹¹²Joseph M. Carlson, Exxon Memo on "The Greenhouse Effect" (August 3, 1988),
<https://assets.documentcloud.org/documents/3024180/1998-Exxon-Memo-on-the-Greenhouse-Effect.pdf>.

1 campaign with full-page newspaper ads, radio commercials, a public relations tour schedule,
2 “mailers,” and research tools to measure campaign success. Included among the campaign
3 strategies was to “reposition global warming as theory (not fact).” Its target audience included
4 older less-educated males who are “predisposed to favor the ICE agenda, and likely to be even
5 more supportive of that agenda following exposure to new info” as well as younger, lower-income
6 women likely to be “green” consumers but who “are also most likely to soften their support for
7 federal legislation after hearing new information on global warming.”¹¹³ The effort focused on a
8 few select cities for their test marketing; these cities were selected on the basis that the majority of
9 their electricity came from coal, they were home to members of the U.S. House of Representatives
10 Energy and Commerce or Ways and Means committees, and they had low media costs.¹¹⁴

11 119. An implicit goal of ICE’s advertising campaign was to change public opinion and
12 avoid regulation. A memo from Richard Lawson, president of the National Coal Association asked
13 members to contribute to the ICE campaign with the justification that “policymakers are prepared
14 to act [on global warming]. Public opinion polls reveal that 60% of the American people already
15 believe global warming is a serious environmental problem. Our industry cannot sit on the
16 sidelines in this debate.”¹¹⁵

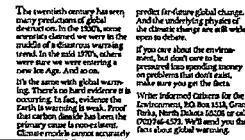
17 120. The following images are examples of ICE-funded print advertisements
18 challenging the validity of climate science and intended to obscure the scientific consensus on
19 anthropogenic climate change and induce political inertia to address it.¹¹⁶

25 ¹¹³ Union of Concerned Scientists, Deception Dossier #5: Coal’s “Information Council on the Environment” Sham,
(1991), http://www.ucsusa.org/sites/default/files/attach/2015/07/Climate-Deception-Dossier-5_ICE.pdf.

26 ¹¹⁴ Id.

27 ¹¹⁵ Naomi Oreskes, My Facts Are Better Than Your Facts: Spreading Good News about Global Warming (2010), in
Peter Howlett et al., How Well Do Facts Travel?: The Dissemination of Reliable Knowledge, 136-166. Cambridge
University Press. doi:10.1017/CBO9780511762154.008.8.

28 ¹¹⁶ Union of Concerned Scientists, Deception Dossier #5: Coal’s “Information Council on the Environment” Sham,
47–49 (1991), http://www.ucsusa.org/sites/default/files/attach/2015/07/Climate-Deception-Dossier-5_ICE.pdf.



1 unrealistic assumptions”—despite the important role that Exxon’s own scientists had played in
2 compiling those same scientific underpinnings.¹¹⁷

3 122. In a speech presented at the World Petroleum Congress in Beijing in 1997 at which
4 many of the Defendants were present, Exxon CEO Lee Raymond reiterated these views. This time,
5 he presented a false dichotomy between stable energy markets and abatement of the marketing,
6 promotion, and sale of fossil fuel products known to Defendants to be hazardous. He stated:

7
8 Some people who argue that we should drastically curtail our use of fossil fuels
9 for environmental reasons...my belief [is] that such proposals are neither prudent
10 nor practical. With no readily available economic alternatives on the horizon,
11 fossil fuels will continue to supply most of the world’s and this region’s energy
12 for the foreseeable future.

13
14 Governments also need to provide a stable investment climate...They should
15 avoid the temptation to intervene in energy markets in ways that give advantage
16 to one competitor over another or one fuel over another.

17
18 We also have to keep in mind that most of the greenhouse effects comes from
19 natural sources Leaping to radically cut this tiny sliver of the greenhouse pie
20 on the premise that it will affect climate defies common sense and lacks foundation
21 in our current understanding of the climate system.

22
23 Let’s agree there’s a lot we really don’t know about how climate will change in
24 the 21st century and beyond. . . . It is highly unlikely that the temperature in the
25 middle of the next century will be significantly affected whether policies are
26 enacted now or 20 years from now. It’s bad public policy to impose very costly
27 regulations and restrictions when their need has yet to be proven.¹¹⁸

28 123. Imperial Oil CEO Robert Peterson falsely denied the established connection
between Defendants’ fossil fuel products and anthropogenic climate change in the Summer 1998
Imperial Oil Review, “A Cleaner Canada”:

[T]his issue [referring to climate change] has absolutely nothing to do with
pollution and air quality. Carbon dioxide is not a pollutant but an essential
ingredient of life on this planet. . . . [T]he question of whether or not the trapping

¹¹⁷ Exxon Corp., Global warming: who’s right?, (1996), <https://www.documentcloud.org/documents/2805542-Exxon-Global-Warming-Whos-Right.html>.

¹¹⁸ Lee R. Raymond, Energy – Key to growth and a better environment for Asia-Pacific nations, World Petroleum Congress (October 13, 1997), <https://assets.documentcloud.org/documents/2840902/1997-Lee-Raymond-Speech-at-China-World-Petroleum.pdf>.

1 of 'greenhouse gases will result in the planet's getting warmer...has no connection
2 whatsoever with our day-to-day weather.

3 There is absolutely no agreement among climatologists on whether or not the planet
4 is getting warmer, or, if it is, on whether the warming is the result of man-made
5 factors or natural variations in the climate. . . . I feel very safe in saying that the
view that burning fossil fuels will result in global climate change remains an
unproved hypothesis.¹¹⁹

6 124. Mobil (ExxonMobil) paid for a series of "advertorials," advertisements located in
7 the editorial section of the New York Times and meant to look like editorials rather than paid ads.
8 These ads discussed various aspects of the public discussion of climate change and sought to
9 undermine the justifications for tackling greenhouse gas emissions as unsettled science. The 1997
10 advertorial below¹²⁰ argued that economic analysis of emissions restrictions was faulty and
11 inconclusive and therefore a justification for delaying action on climate change.

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27 ¹¹⁹ Robert Peterson, A Cleaner Canada in Imperial Oil Review (Summer 1998),
<http://www.documentcloud.org/documents/2827818-1998-Imperial-Oil-Robert-Peterson-A-Cleaner-Canada.html>.
28 ¹²⁰ Mobil, When Facts Don't Square with the Theory, Throw Out the Facts (1997) New York Times, A31 (August
14, 1997), <https://www.documentcloud.org/documents/705550-mob-nyt-1997-aug-14-whenfactsdentsquare.html>.

1 like race.

2 But when we no longer allow those
3 choices, both civility and common
4 sense will have been diminished. □

5 who was dragged from his sister's
6 car by police officers and shot in the
7 face at point-blank range. The cops

8 who have the power to do something
9 about those officers, but choose not
10 to. □

11 ep

12 utonomy.
13 t veto, Con-
14 layer in the
15 sident who
16 tion played
17 ongress by
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19 claim of Ar-
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28 s being arbi-
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31 the strategies

32 Item veto in
33 an President,
34 ipped to op-
35 Democratic
36 voters who
37 are for sanity
38 at Clinton.
39 bers may ob-
40 ject their budg-
41 etary veto. The
42 President has
43 the item veto
44 of budgetary
45 substance
46 to shield budg-
47 etary priorities. □

48 e

49 ig apart and
50 re're talking
51 soon. Joseph
52 e. Huteroyser
53 an affair.
54 He is respon-
55 sible, certainly, but

56 ges in divorce
57 decades have
58 a many wives.
59 Even then, no
60 s the antiquated
61 "law" in a
62 state where
63 a Dorothy Hu-
64 in the courts?
65 a victory for
66 illes, as some
67 it's not even a
68 post women in
69 . Only 12 states
70 men of affec-

71 Is a studies-
72 ected Dorothy
73 k a jury of her
74 is justified. In
75 they came in
76 sporting her.
77 at? □

When facts don't square with the theory, throw out the facts



78 That seems to characterize the admin-
79 istration's attitude on two of its own
80 studies which show that international
81 efforts to curb global warming could spark a big
82 run-up in energy prices.

83 For months, the administration—playing its
84 cards close to the vest—has promised to provide
85 details of the emission reduction plan it will put on
86 the table at the climate change meeting in Kyoto,
87 Japan, later this year. It also promised to evaluate
88 the economics of that policy and measure its
89 impact. Those results are important because the
90 proposals submitted by other countries thus
91 far would be disruptive and costly to the U.S.
92 economy.

93 Yet, when the results from its own eco-
94 nomic models were finally generated, the admin-
95 istration started distancing itself from the findings
96 and models that produced them. The administra-
97 tion's top economic advisor said that economic
98 models can't provide a "definitive answer" on the
99 impact of controlling emissions. The effort, she
100 said, was "futile." At best, the models can only
101 provide a "range of potential impacts."

102 Frankly, we're puzzled. The White House
103 has promised to lay the economic facts before
104 the public. Yet, the administration's top advisor
105 said such an analysis won't be based on models
106 and it will "preclude... detailed numbers." If you
107 don't provide numbers and don't rely on models,
108 what kind of rigorous economic examination can
109 Congress and the public expect?

110 We're also puzzled by ambivalence over
111 models. The administration downplays the utility
112 of economic models to forecast cost impacts
113 10-15 years from now, yet its negotiators accept
114 as gospel the 50-100-year predictions of global
115 warming that have been generated by climate
116 models—many of which have been criticized as
117 seriously flawed.

118 The second study, conducted by Argonne
119 National Laboratory under a contract with
120 the Energy Department, examined what would

121 happen if the U.S. had to commit to higher
122 energy prices under the emission reduction
123 plans that several nations had advanced last
124 year. Such increases, the report concluded,
125 would result in "significant reductions in output
126 and employment" in six industries—aluminum,
127 cement, chemical, paper and pulp, petroleum
128 refining and steel.

129 Hit hardest, the study noted, would be the
130 chemical industry, with estimates shot up to 30
131 percent of U.S. chemical manufacturing capacity
132 would move offshore to developing countries.
133 Job losses could amount to some 200,000 in
134 that industry, with another 100,000 in the steel
135 sector. And despite the substantial loss of U.S.
136 jobs and manufacturing capacity, the net emis-
137 sion reduction could be insignificant since de-
138 veloping countries will not be bound by the
139 emission targets of a global warming treaty.

140 Downplaying Argonne's findings, the
141 Energy Department noted that the study used
142 outdated energy prices (mid-1996), didn't reflect
143 the gains that would come from international
144 emissions trading and failed to factor in the
145 benefits of accelerated developments in energy
146 efficiency and low-carbon technologies.

147 What it failed to mention is just what these
148 new technologies are and when we can expect
149 their benefits to kick in. As for emissions trading,
150 many economists have theorized about the role
151 they could play in reducing emissions, but few
152 have grappled with the practicality of implement-
153 ing and policing such a scheme.

154 We applaud the goals the U.S. wants to
155 achieve in these upcoming negotiations—namely,
156 that a final agreement must be "flexible, cost-
157 effective, realistic, achievable and ultimately
158 global in scope." But until we see the details of
159 the administration's policy, we are concerned that
160 plans are being developed in the absence of
161 rigorous economic analysis. Too much is at stake
162 to simply ignore facts that don't square with
163 preconceived theories.

164 **Mobil** The energy
165 to make a difference.

166 <http://www.mobil.com>

167 © 1997 Mobil Oil Corporation

1 125. In 1998, API, on behalf of Defendants, among other fossil fuel companies and
2 organizations supported by fossil fuel corporate grants, developed a Global Climate Science
3 Communications Plan that stated that unless “climate change becomes a non-issue . . . there may
4 be no moment when we can declare victory for our efforts.” Rather, API proclaimed that “[v]ictory
5 will be achieved when . . . average citizens ‘understand’ (recognize) uncertainties in climate
6 science; [and when] recognition of uncertainties becomes part of the ‘conventional wisdom.’”¹²¹
7 The multi-million-dollar, multi-year proposed budget included public outreach and the
8 dissemination of educational materials to schools to “begin to erect a barrier against further efforts
9 to impose Kyoto-like measures in the future”¹²²—a blatant attempt to disrupt international efforts,
10 pursuant to the UNFCCC, to negotiate a treaty that curbed greenhouse gas emissions.

11 126. Soon after, API distributed a memo to its members identifying public agreement on
12 fossil fuel role in climate change as its highest priority issue.¹²³ The memorandum illuminates
13 API’s and Defendants’ concern over the potential regulation of Defendants’ fossil fuel products:
14 “Climate is at the center of the industry’s business interests. Policies limiting carbon emissions
15 reduce petroleum product use. That is why it is API’s highest priority issue and defined as
16 ‘strategic.’”¹²⁴ Further, the API memo stresses many of the strategies that Defendants individually
17 and collectively utilized to combat the perception of their fossil fuel products as hazardous. These
18 included:

- 19 a. Influencing the tenor of the climate change “debate” as a means to establish
20 that greenhouse gas reduction policies like the Kyoto Protocol were not
21 necessary to responsibly address climate change;

24 ¹²¹ Joe Walker, E-mail to Global Climate Science Team, attaching the Draft Global Science Communications Plan
25 (April 3, 1998), <https://assets.documentcloud.org/documents/784572/api-global-climate-science-communications-plan.pdf>.

26 ¹²² Joe Walker, E-mail to Global Climate Science Team, attaching the Draft Global Science Communications Plan
27 (April 3, 1998), <https://assets.documentcloud.org/documents/784572/api-global-climate-science-communications-plan.pdf>.

28 ¹²³ Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Allegations of Political Interference with Government Climate Change Science, page 51 (March 19, 2007), <https://ia601904.us.archive.org/25/items/gov.gpo.fdsys.CHRG-110hrg37415/CHRG-110hrg37415.pdf>.

¹²⁴ Id.

- 1 b. Maintaining strong working relationships between government regulators
2 and communications-oriented organizations like the Global Climate
3 Coalition, the Heartland Institute, and other groups carrying Defendants’
4 message minimizing the hazards of the unabated use of their fossil fuel
5 products and opposing regulation thereof;
- 6 c. Building the case for (and falsely dichotomizing) Defendants’ positive
7 contributions to a “long-term approach” (ostensibly for regulation of their
8 products) as a reason for society to reject short term fossil fuel emissions
9 regulations, and engaging in climate change science uncertainty research;
10 and
- 11 d. Presenting Defendants’ positions on climate change in domestic and
12 international forums, including by preparing rebuttals to IPCC reports.

13 127. Additionally, Defendants mounted a campaign against regulation of their business
14 practices in order to continue placing their fossil fuel products into the stream of commerce, despite
15 their own knowledge and the growing national and international scientific consensus about the
16 hazards of doing so. These efforts came despite Defendants’ recent recognition that “risks to nearly
17 every facet of life on Earth . . . could be avoided only if timely steps were taken to address climate
18 change.”¹²⁵

19 128. The Global Climate Coalition (GCC), on behalf of Defendants and other fossil fuel
20 companies, funded advertising campaigns and distributed material to generate public uncertainty
21 around the climate debate, with the specific purpose of preventing U.S. adoption of the Kyoto
22 Protocol, despite the leading role that the U.S. had played in the Protocol negotiations.¹²⁶ Despite
23 an internal primer stating that various “contrarian theories” [i.e., climate change skepticism] do
24

25

¹²⁵ Neela Banerjee, Exxon’s Oil Industry Peers Knew About Climate Dangers in the 1970s, Too, Inside Climate
26 News (December 22, 2015), <https://insideclimatenews.org/news/22122015/exxon-mobil-oil-industry-peers-knew-about-climate-change-dangers-1970s-american-petroleum-institute-api-shell-chevron-texaco>.

27 ¹²⁶ Neela Banerjee, Exxon’s Oil Industry Peers Knew About Climate Dangers in the 1970s, Too, Inside Climate
28 News (December 22, 2015), <https://insideclimatenews.org/news/22122015/exxon-mobil-oil-industry-peers-knew-about-climate-change-dangers-1970s-american-petroleum-institute-api-shell-chevron-texaco>.

1 not “offer convincing arguments against the conventional model of greenhouse gas emission-
2 induced climate change,” GCC excluded this section from the public version of the backgrounder
3 and instead funded efforts to promote some of those same contrarian theories over subsequent
4 years.¹²⁷

5 129. The efforts by the Defendants and other fossil fuel interests to sow uncertainty and
6 prevent regulation have been successful. GCC and its cohorts staved off greenhouse gas regulation
7 in the U.S., as indicated by U.S. Undersecretary of State Paula Dobriansky’s talking points
8 compiled before a 2001 meeting with GCC representatives: “POTUS [President of the United
9 States] rejected Kyoto, in part, based on [GCC’s] input.”¹²⁸ When GCC disbanded later that year,
10 it commemorated the occasion on its website by stating that “the industry voice on climate change
11 has served its purpose by contributing to a new national approach to global warming.”¹²⁹

12 130. A key strategy in Defendants’ efforts to discredit scientific consensus on climate
13 change and the IPCC was to bankroll scientists who, although accredited, held fringe opinions that
14 were even more questionable given the sources of their research funding. These scientists obtained
15 part or all of their research budget from Defendants directly or through Defendant-funded
16 organizations like API,¹³⁰ but they frequently failed to disclose their fossil fuel industry
17 underwriters.¹³¹

18 131. Creating a false sense of disagreement in the scientific community (despite the
19 consensus that its own scientists, experts, and managers had previously acknowledged) has had an
20 evident impact on public opinion. A 2007 Yale University-Gallup poll found that while 71% of
21

22 ¹²⁷ Gregory J. Dana, Memo to AIAM Technical Committee Re: Global Climate Coalition (GCC) – Primer on
23 Climate Change Science – Final Draft, Association of International Automobile Manufacturers (January 18, 1996),
<http://www.webcitation.org/6FyqHawb9>.

24 ¹²⁸ Ken Brill, Briefing Memorandum to Under Secretary Dobriansky, Your Meeting with members of the Global
25 Climate Coalition, June 21, 2001, 9:10 – 9:50 a.m., United States Department of State (June 20, 2001),
<http://insideclimatenews.org/sites/default/files/documents/Global%20Climate%20Coalition%20Meeting%20%282001%29.pdf>.

26 ¹²⁹ Global Climate Coalition, A Voice for Business in the Global Warming Debate (April 3, 2001)
<https://web.archive.org/web/20030408231206/http://globalclimate.org/index.htm>.

27 ¹³⁰ Willie Soon and Sallie Baliunas, Proxy Climatic and Environmental Changes of the Past 1000 Years, *Climate*
28 *Research* 23, 88-110 (January 31, 2003), <http://www.int-res.com/articles/cr2003/23/c023p089.pdf>.

¹³¹ Newsdesk, Smithsonian Statement: Dr. Wei-Hock (Willie) Soon, *Smithsonian* (February 26, 2015),
<http://newsdesk.si.edu/releases/smithsonian-statement-dr-wei-hock-willie-soon>.

1 Americans personally believed global warming was happening, only 48% believed that there was
2 a consensus among the scientific community, and 40% believed there was a lot of disagreement
3 among scientists over whether global warming was occurring.¹³²

4 132. 2007 was the same year the IPCC published its Fourth Assessment Report, in which
5 it concluded that “there is *very high confidence* that the net effect of human activities since 1750
6 has been one of warming.”¹³³ The IPCC defined “very high confidence” as at least a 9 out of 10
7 chance.¹³⁴

8 133. Defendants borrowed pages out of the playbook of prior denialist campaigns. A
9 “Global Climate Science Team” (“GCST”) was created that mirrored a front group created by the
10 tobacco industry, known as The Advancement of Sound Science Coalition, whose purpose was to
11 sow uncertainty about the fact that cigarette smoke is carcinogenic. The GCST’s membership
12 included Steve Milloy (a key player on the tobacco industry’s front group), Exxon’s senior
13 environmental lobbyist; an API public relations representative; and representatives from Chevron
14 and Southern Company that drafted API’s 1998 Communications Plan. There were no scientists
15 on the “Global Climate Science Team.” GCST developed a strategy to spend millions of dollars
16 manufacturing climate change uncertainty. Between 2000 and 2004, Exxon donated \$110,000 to
17 Milloy’s efforts and another organization, the Free Enterprise Education Institute and \$50,000 to
18 the Free Enterprise Action Institute, both registered to Milloy’s home address.¹³⁵

19 134. Defendants by and through their trade association memberships, worked directly,
20 and often in a deliberately obscured manner, to evade regulation of the emissions resulting from
21 use of their fossil fuel products. For instance, the American Coalition for Clean Coal Electricity
22

23
24 ¹³² American Opinions on Global Warming: A Yale/Gallup/Clearvision Poll, Yale Program on Climate Change
Communication (July 31, 2007), <http://climatecommunication.yale.edu/publications/american-opinions-on-global-warming/>.

25 ¹³³ IPCC, 2007: Summary for Policymakers, page 3 (emphasis in original), Climate Change 2007: The Physical
Science Basis. Contribution of Working Group I to the Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on
Climate Change (2007), <https://www.ipcc.ch/pdf/assessment-report/ar4/wg1/ar4-wg1-spm.pdf>.

26 ¹³⁴ Id.

27 ¹³⁵ Seth Shulman et al. Smoke, Mirrors & Hot Air: How ExxonMobil Uses Big Tobacco’s Tactics to Manufacture
Uncertainty on Climate Science, Union of Concerned Scientists, 19 (January 2007),
28 http://www.ucsusa.org/sites/default/files/legacy/assets/documents/global_warming/exxon_report.pdf.

1 (ACCCE), on behalf of Defendants, hired a lobbying firm, which posed as various nonprofits and
2 sent letters to persuade members of Congress to vote against the American Clean Energy and
3 Security Act of 2009, which would have imposed a carbon cap and trade program in the U.S.¹³⁶
4 Instead, the letters falsely and misleadingly purported to come from groups representing local
5 minority communities, including a local NAACP chapter and a Latino advocacy group.¹³⁷

6 135. The same year, in 2009, a leaked email revealed a campaign by API to organize
7 “grass roots” rallies of “energy citizens” to coincide with the United States Congress’s August
8 recess, to oppose the Clean Energy and Security Act, the climate change bill that had just passed
9 the House and was headed to the Senate for debate.¹³⁸ Ostensibly intended to “allow people to
10 voice their concerns” and opposing the need for concerted efforts to combat climate change, emails
11 from API to its members state that “it’s important our views be heard,” and that “success for these
12 events will be the diversity of the participants expressing the same message,” which was ultimately
13 misleading and contrary to the acknowledged scientific consensus.¹³⁹ The purpose of the events
14 was to “put a human face” on the industry’s misleading and unsupported position and to reinforce
15 that misleading position in the minds of the public. The same emails to API members stated that
16 “our messages on [similar] legislation work extremely well and are very persuasive with the
17 general public and policy influentials.” Moreover, the email stated that API would “provide the
18 up-front resources to ensure logistical issues do not become a problem,” but insisted that member
19 companies “provide significant attendance.”¹⁴⁰

20 136. Emails between American Fuel & Petrochemical Manufacturers (“AFPM”), a
21 national lobbying group, and the office of then-Oklahoma Attorney General Scott Pruitt evidence
22

23 ¹³⁶ Union of Concerned Scientists, Deception Dossier #4: American Coalition for Clean Coal Electricity Forged
24 Letters (2009) [http://www.ucsusa.org/sites/default/files/attach/2015/07/Climate-Deception-Dossier-4_ACCCE-](http://www.ucsusa.org/sites/default/files/attach/2015/07/Climate-Deception-Dossier-4_ACCCE-forged-letters.pdf)
[forged-letters.pdf](http://www.ucsusa.org/sites/default/files/attach/2015/07/Climate-Deception-Dossier-4_ACCCE-forged-letters.pdf).

25 ¹³⁷ Brian McNeill, Lobbying letters to Perriello found to be fakes, Richmond Times-Dispatch (Aug. 1, 2009)
[http://www.richmond.com/news/lobbying-letters-to-perriello-found-to-be-fakes/article_3f8f5a2b-cf38-54d9-98f7-](http://www.richmond.com/news/lobbying-letters-to-perriello-found-to-be-fakes/article_3f8f5a2b-cf38-54d9-98f7-ba21c4eb51fe.html)
[ba21c4eb51fe.html](http://www.richmond.com/news/lobbying-letters-to-perriello-found-to-be-fakes/article_3f8f5a2b-cf38-54d9-98f7-ba21c4eb51fe.html).

26 ¹³⁸ Alex Kaplun, ‘Energy Citizens’ Take Aim at Climate Legislation, N.Y. Times (Aug. 12, 2009)
<http://www.nytimes.com/gwire/2009/08/12/12greenwire-energy-citizens-take-aim-at-climate-legislatio-54732.html>.

27 ¹³⁹ Phil Radford, Letter to Jack Gerard, President & CEO of API, Greenpeace (August 2009)
<https://www.desmogblog.com/sites/beta.desmogblog.com/files/GP%20API%20letter%20August%202009-1.pdf>.

28 ¹⁴⁰ Id.

1 an effort to influence EPA regulations that would have mitigated reliance on Defendants' fossil
2 fuel products by requiring renewable fuel production.¹⁴¹ BP Petrochemicals, BP Products North
3 America, Chevron U.S.A. Inc., CITGO Petroleum Corporation, Exxon Mobil Corporation,
4 Occidental Chemical Corporation, Phillips 66, Shell Chemical Company, Total Petrochemicals &
5 Refining USA, Inc., are among AFPM's members.

6 137. A 2014 presentation revealed that the Western States Petroleum Association, on
7 behalf of Defendants, among other fossil fuel companies, funded dozens of supposedly grassroots
8 organizations to block progressive energy regulation.¹⁴² This practice is called "astroturfing":
9 astroturf is meant to look like grass, but it is fake. Similarly, large companies and corporate
10 organizations like WSPA fund fake grassroots movements to gain credibility from the public, who
11 does not know the true source of the propaganda.

12 138. Beyond direct interference, Defendants have funded dozens of think tanks, front
13 groups, lobbyists, and dark money foundations pushing climate change denial. These include the
14 Competitive Enterprise Institute, the Heartland Institute, Frontiers for Freedom, Committee for a
15 Constructive Tomorrow, and Heritage Foundation. From 1998 to 2014 ExxonMobil spent almost
16 \$31 million funding numerous organizations misrepresenting the scientific consensus that
17 Defendants' fossil fuel products were causing climate change, sea level rise, and injuries to San
18 Mateo, among other coastal communities.¹⁴³ Several Defendants have been linked to other groups
19 that undermine the scientific basis linking Defendants' fossil fuel products to climate change and
20 sea level rise, including the Energy & Environment Legal Institute (Arch Coal¹⁴⁴) and the Frontiers
21 of Freedom Institute, the George C. Marshall Institute, and the Center for the Study of Carbon
22 Dioxide and Global Change (Peabody Energy).¹⁴⁵

24 ¹⁴¹ Email chain from Moskowitz to Eubanks, Renewable Fuel Standard -Background Information (July 13, 2013)
<https://www.documentcloud.org/documents/3472961-2013-Pruitt-and-American-Fuel-and-Petrochemical.html>.

25 ¹⁴² WSPA Priority Issues, Western States Petroleum Association (November 11, 2014)
https://www.indybay.org/uploads/2014/12/12/washington_research_council_-_cathy_reheis-boyd.pdf.

26 ¹⁴³ ExxonSecrets.org, ExxonMobil Climate Denial Funding 1998–2014 <http://exxonsecrets.org/html/index.php>.

27 ¹⁴⁴ Seth Shulman et al. Smoke, Mirrors & Hot Air: How ExxonMobil Uses Big Tobacco's Tactics to Manufacture
Uncertainty on Climate Science, Union of Concerned Scientists, 19 (January 2007),
http://www.ucsusa.org/sites/default/files/legacy/assets/documents/global_warming/exxon_report.pdf.

28 ¹⁴⁵ In re: Peabody Energy Corporation, et al., (E.D. Mo.), Certificate of Service, Doc. Number 602, 140 (May 27,
2016), <https://www.documentcloud.org/documents/2859772>.

1 139. Exxon acknowledged its own previous success in sowing uncertainty and slowing
2 mitigation through funding of climate denial groups. In its 2007 Corporate Citizenship Report,
3 Exxon declared: "In 2008, we will discontinue contributions to several public policy research
4 groups whose position on climate change could divert attention from the important discussion on
5 how the world will secure the energy required for economic growth in an environmentally
6 responsible manner."¹⁴⁶ Despite this pronouncement, Exxon remained financially associated with
7 several such groups after the report's publication.

8 140. Defendants could have contributed to the global effort to mitigate the impacts of
9 greenhouse gas emissions by, for example delineating practical policy goals and regulatory
10 structures that would have allowed them to continue their business ventures while reducing
11 greenhouse gas emissions and supporting a transition to a lower carbon future. Instead, Defendants
12 undertook a momentous effort to evade international and national regulation of greenhouse gas
13 emissions to enable them to continue unabated fossil fuel production.

14 141. As a result of Defendants' tortious, false and misleading conduct, reasonable
15 consumers of Defendants' fossil fuel products and policy-makers, have been deliberately and
16 unnecessarily deceived about: the role of fossil fuel products in causing global warming and sea
17 level rise; the acceleration of global warming since the mid-20th century and the continuation
18 thereof; and about the fact that the continued increase in fossil fuel product consumption that
19 creates severe environmental threats and significant economic costs for coastal communities,
20 including San Mateo County. Reasonable consumers and policy makers have also been deceived
21 about the depth and breadth of the state of the scientific evidence on anthropogenic climate change,
22 and in particular on the strength of the scientific consensus demonstrating the role of fossil fuels
23 in causing both climate change and a wide range of potentially destructive impacts, including sea
24 level rise.

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¹⁴⁶ ExxonMobil, 2007 Corporate Citizenship Report (December 31, 2007).).

1 **F. In Contrast to Their Public Statements, Defendants' Internal Actions**
2 **Demonstrate their Awareness of and Intent to Profit from the Unabated Use**
3 **of Fossil Fuel Products.**

4 142. In contrast to their public-facing efforts challenging the validity of the scientific
5 consensus about anthropogenic climate change, Defendants' acts and omissions evidence their
6 internal acknowledgement of the reality of sea level rise and its likely consequences. These actions
7 include, but are not limited to, making multi-billion-dollar infrastructure investments for their own
8 operations that acknowledge the reality of coming anthropogenic climate-related change. These
9 investments included (among others), raising offshore oil platforms to protect against sea level
10 rise; reinforcing offshore oil platforms to withstand increased wave strength and storm severity;
11 and developing and patenting designs for equipment intended to extract crude oil and/or natural
gas in areas previously unreachable because of the presence of polar ice sheets.¹⁴⁷

12 143. For example, in 1973 Exxon obtained a patent for a cargo ship capable of breaking
13 through sea ice¹⁴⁸ and for an oil tanker¹⁴⁹ designed specifically for use in previously unreachable
14 areas of the Arctic.

15 144. In 1974, Chevron obtained a patent for a mobile arctic drilling platform designed
16 to withstand significant interference from lateral ice masses,¹⁵⁰ allowing for drilling in areas with
17 increased ice floe movement due to elevated temperature.

18 145. That same year, Texaco (Chevron) worked toward obtaining a patent for a method
19 and apparatus for reducing ice forces on a marine structure prone to being frozen in ice through
20 natural weather conditions,¹⁵¹ allowing for drilling in previously unreachable Arctic areas that
21 would become seasonally accessible.

22
23
24 ¹⁴⁷ Amy Lieberman and Suzanne Rust, Big Oil braced for global warming while it fought regulations, L.A. Times
(December 31, 2015) <http://graphics.latimes.com/oil-operations/>.

25 ¹⁴⁸ Patents, Icebreaking cargo vessel, Exxon Research Engineering Co. (April 17, 1973)
<https://www.google.com/patents/US3727571>.

26 ¹⁴⁹ Patents, Tanker vessel, Exxon Research Engineering Co. (July 17, 1973)
<https://www.google.com/patents/US3745960>.

27 ¹⁵⁰ Patents, Arctic offshore platform, Chevron Res (August 27, 1974) <https://www.google.com/patents/US3831385>.

28 ¹⁵¹ Patents, Mobile, arctic drilling and production platform, Texaco Inc. (February 26, 1974)
<https://www.google.com/patents/US3793840>.

- 1 146. Shell obtained a patent similar to Texaco's (Chevron) in 1984.¹⁵²
- 2 147. In 1989, Norske Shell, Royal Dutch Shell's Norwegian subsidiary, altered designs
- 3 for a natural gas platform planned for construction in the North Sea to account for anticipated sea
- 4 level rise. Those design changes were ultimately carried out by Shell's contractors, adding
- 5 substantial costs to the project.¹⁵³
- 6 a. The Troll field, off the Norwegian coast in the North Sea, was proven to
- 7 contain large natural oil and gas deposits in 1979, shortly after Norske Shell
- 8 was approved by Norwegian oil and gas regulators to operate a portion of
- 9 the field.
- 10 b. In 1986, the Norwegian parliament granted Norske Shell authority to
- 11 complete the first development phase of the Troll field gas deposits, and
- 12 Norske Shell began designing the "Troll A" gas platform, with the intent to
- 13 begin operation of the platform in approximately 1995. Based on the very
- 14 large size of the gas deposits in the Troll field, the Troll A platform was
- 15 projected to operate for approximately 70 years.
- 16 c. The platform was originally designed to stand approximately 100 feet above
- 17 sea level—the amount necessary to stay above waves in a once-in-a-century
- 18 strength storm.
- 19 d. In 1989, Shell engineers revised their plans to increase the above-water
- 20 height of the platform by 3–6 feet, specifically to account for higher
- 21 anticipated average sea levels and increased storm intensity due to global
- 22 warming over the platform's 70-year operational life.¹⁵⁴
- 23 e. Shell projected that the additional 3–6 feet of above-water construction
- 24 would increase the cost of the Troll A platform by as much as \$40 million.
- 25

26 ¹⁵² Patents, Arctic offshore platform, Shell Oil Company (January 24, 1984)
<https://www.google.com/patents/US4427320>.

27 ¹⁵³ Greenhouse Effect: Shell Anticipates A Sea Change, N.Y. Times (December 20, 1989)
<http://www.nytimes.com/1989/12/20/business/greenhouse-effect-shell-anticipates-a-sea-change.html>.

28 ¹⁵⁴ Id.; Amy Lieberman and Suzanne Rust, Big Oil braced for global warming while it fought regulations, L.A. Times (December 31, 2015), <http://graphics.latimes.com/oil-operations/>.

1 **G. Defendants' Actions Prevented the Development of Alternatives That Would**
2 **Have Eased the Transition to a Less Fossil Fuel Dependent Economy.**

3 148. The harms and benefits of Defendants' conduct can be balanced in part by weighing
4 the social benefit of extracting and burning a unit of fossil fuels against the costs that a unit of fuel
5 imposes on society, known as the "social cost of carbon" or "SCC."

6 149. Because climatic responses to atmospheric temperature increases are non-linear,
7 and because greenhouse gas pollution accumulates in the atmosphere, some of which does not
8 dissipate for potentially thousands of years (namely CO₂), there is broad agreement that SCC
9 increases as emissions rise, and as the climate warms. Relatedly, as atmospheric CO₂ levels and
10 surface temperature increase, the costs of remediating any individual environmental injury—for
11 example infrastructure to mitigate sea level rise, and changes to agricultural processes—also
12 increases. In short, each additional ton of CO₂ emitted into the atmosphere will have a greater net
13 social cost as emissions increase, and each additional ton of CO₂ will have a greater net social cost
14 as global warming accelerates.

15 150. A critical corollary of the non-linear relationship between atmospheric CO₂
16 concentrations and SCC is that delayed efforts to curb those emissions have increased
17 environmental harms and will increase the magnitude and cost to remediate harms that have
18 already occurred or are locked in by previous emissions. Therefore, Defendants' campaign to
19 obscure the science of climate change and to expand the extraction and use of fossil fuels greatly
20 increased and continues to increase the harms and rate of harms suffered by the County and
21 the People.

22 151. The consequences of delayed action on climate change, exacerbated by Defendants'
23 actions, has already drastically increased the cost of mitigating further harm. Had concerted action
24 begun even as late as 2005, an annual 3.5% reduction in CO₂ emissions to lower atmospheric CO₂
25 to 350 ppm by the year 2100 would have restored earth's energy balance¹⁵⁵ and halted future global

26 _____
27 ¹⁵⁵ "Climate equilibrium" is the balance between Earth's absorption of solar energy and its own energy radiation.
28 Earth is currently out of equilibrium due to the influence of anthropogenic greenhouse gases, which prevent
radiation of energy into space. Earth therefore warms and move back toward energy balance. Reduction of global

1 warming, although such efforts would not forestall committed sea level rise already locked in¹⁵⁶
2 If efforts do not begin until 2020, however, a 15% annual reduction will be required to restore the
3 Earth's energy balance by the end of the century.¹⁵⁷ Earlier steps to reduce emissions would have
4 led to smaller—and less disruptive—measures needed to mitigate the impacts of fossil fuel
5 production.

6 152. The costs of inaction and the opportunities to confront anthropogenic climate
7 change and sea level rise caused by normal consumption of their fossil fuel products, were not lost
8 on Defendants. In a 1997 speech by John Browne, Group Executive for BP America, at Stanford
9 University, Browne described Defendants' and the entire fossil fuel industry's responsibility and
10 opportunities to reduce use of fossil fuel products, reduce global CO₂ emissions, and mitigate the
11 harms associated with the use and consumption of such products:

12 A new age demands a fresh perspective of the nature of society and responsibility.

13 We need to go beyond analysis and to take action. It is a moment for change and
14 for a rethinking of corporate responsibility. . . .

15 [T]here is now an effective consensus among the world's leading scientists and
16 serious and well informed people outside the scientific community that there is a
17 discernible human influence on the climate, and a link between the concentration
of carbon dioxide and the increase in temperature.

18 The prediction of the IPCC is that over the next century temperatures might rise by
19 a further 1 to 3.5 degrees centigrade [1.8° – 6.3° F], and that sea levels might rise
20 by between 15 and 95 centimetres [5.9 and 37.4 inches]. Some of that impact is
probably unavoidable, because it results from current emissions. . . .

21 [I]t would be unwise and potentially dangerous to ignore the mounting concern.

22 The time to consider the policy dimensions of climate change is not when the link
23

24 CO₂ concentrations to 350 ppm is necessary to re-achieve energy balance, if the aim is to stabilize climate without
25 further global warming and attendant sea level rise. *See* James Hansen et al., Assessing "Dangerous Climate
Change": Required Reduction of Carbon Emissions to Protect Young People, Future Generations and Nature, 8
PLOS ONE 1, 4-5 (December 3, 2013), <http://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0081648>.

26 ¹⁵⁶ James Hansen et al., Assessing "Dangerous Climate Change": Required Reduction of Carbon Emissions to
Protect Young People, Future Generations and Nature, 8 PLOS ONE 1, 10 (December 3, 2013),
27 <http://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0081648>.

28 ¹⁵⁷ James Hansen et al., Assessing "Dangerous Climate Change": Required Reduction of Carbon Emissions to
Protect Young People, Future Generations and Nature, 8 PLOS ONE 1, 10 (December 3, 2013),
<http://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0081648>.

1 between greenhouse gases and climate change is conclusively proven . . . but when
2 the possibility cannot be discounted and is taken seriously by the society of which
we are part. . . .

3 We [the fossil fuel industry] have a responsibility to act, and I hope that through
4 our actions we can contribute to the much wider process which is desirable and
5 necessary.

6 BP accepts that responsibility and we're therefore taking some specific steps.

7 To control our own emissions.

8 To fund continuing scientific research.

9 To take initiatives for joint implementation.

10 To develop alternative fuels for the long term.

11 And to contribute to the public policy debate in search of the wider global answers
12 to the problem.”¹⁵⁸

13 153. Despite Defendants’ knowledge of the foreseeable, measurable harms associated
14 with the unabated consumption and use of their fossil fuel products, and despite the existence and
15 Defendants’ knowledge of technologies and practices that could have helped to reduce the
16 foreseeable dangers associated with their fossil fuel products, Defendants continued to market and
17 promote heavy fossil fuel use, dramatically increasing the cost of abatement. At all relevant times,
18 Defendants were deeply familiar with opportunities to reduce the use of their fossil fuel products,
19 reduce global CO₂ emissions associated therewith, and mitigate the harms associated with the use
20 and consumption of such products. Examples of that recognition include, but are not limited to the
21 following:

- 22 a. In 1963, Esso (Exxon) obtained multiple patents on technologies for fuel
23 cells, including on the design of a fuel cell and necessary electrodes,¹⁵⁹ and
24 on a process for increasing the oxidation of a fuel, specifically methanol, to
25

26 ¹⁵⁸ John Browne, BP Climate Change Speech to Stanford, Climate Files (May 19, 1997),
27 <http://www.climatefiles.com/bp/bp-climate-change-speech-to-stanford/>.

28 ¹⁵⁹ Patents, Fuel cell and fuel cell electrodes, Exxon Research Engineering Co. (December 31, 1963)
<https://www.google.com/patents/US3116169>.

1 produce electricity in a fuel cell.¹⁶⁰

- 2 b. In 1970, Esso (ExxonMobil) obtained a patent for a “low-polluting engine
3 and drive system” that used an interburner and air compressor to reduce
4 pollutant emissions, including CO₂ emissions, from gasoline combustion
5 engines (the system also increased the efficiency of the fossil fuel products
6 used in such engines, thereby lowering the amount of fossil fuel product
7 necessary to operate engines equipped with this technology).¹⁶¹

8 154. Defendants could have made major inroads to mitigate Plaintiffs’ injuries through
9 technology by developing and employing technologies to capture and sequester greenhouse gases
10 emissions associated with conventional use of their fossil fuel products. Defendants had
11 knowledge dating at least back to the 1960s, and indeed, internally researched and perfected many
12 such technologies. For instance:

- 13 a. The first patent for enhanced oil recovery technology, a process by which
14 CO₂ is captured and reinjected into oil deposits, was granted to an ARCO
15 (BP) subsidiary in 1952.¹⁶² This technology could have been further
16 developed as a carbon capture and sequestration technique;
17 b. Phillips Petroleum Company (ConocoPhillips) obtained a patent in 1966 for
18 a “Method for recovering a purified component from a gas” outlining a
19 process to remove carbon from natural gas and gasoline streams;¹⁶³ and
20 c. In 1973, Shell was granted a patent for a process to remove acidic gases,
21 including CO₂, from gaseous mixtures.

24 ¹⁶⁰ Patents, Direct production of electrical energy from liquid fuels, Exxon Research Engineering Co. (December 3,
1963) <https://www.google.com/patents/US3113049>.

25 ¹⁶¹ Patents, Low-polluting engine and drive system, Exxon Research Engineering Co. (May 16, 1970)
<https://www.google.com/patents/US3513929>.

26 ¹⁶² James P. Meyer, Summary of Carbon Dioxide Enhanced Oil Recovery (CO₂EOR) Injection Well Technology,
American Petroleum Institute, page 1, [http://www.api.org/~media/Files/EHS/climate-change/Summary-carbon-](http://www.api.org/~media/Files/EHS/climate-change/Summary-carbon-dioxide-enhanced-oil-recovery-well-tech.pdf)
27 [dioxide-enhanced-oil-recovery-well-tech.pdf](http://www.api.org/~media/Files/EHS/climate-change/Summary-carbon-dioxide-enhanced-oil-recovery-well-tech.pdf).

28 ¹⁶³ Patents, Method for recovering a purified component from a gas, Phillips Petroleum Co (January 11, 1966)
<https://www.google.com/patents/US3228874>.

1 155. Despite this knowledge, Defendants’ later forays into the alternative energy sector
2 were largely pretenses. For instance, in 2001, Chevron developed and shared a sophisticated
3 information management system to gather greenhouse gas emissions data from its explorations
4 and production to help regulate and set reduction goals.¹⁶⁴ Beyond this technological
5 breakthrough, Chevron touted “profitable renewable energy” as part of its business plan for several
6 years and launched a 2010 advertising campaign promoting the company’s move towards
7 renewable energy. Despite all this, Chevron rolled back its renewable and alternative energy
8 projects in 2014.¹⁶⁵

9 156. Similarly, ConocoPhillips’ 2012 Sustainable Development report declared
10 developing renewable energy a priority in keeping with their position on sustainable development
11 and climate change.¹⁶⁶ Their 10-K filing from the same year told a different story: “As an
12 independent E&P company, we are solely focused on our core business of exploring for,
13 developing and producing crude oil and natural gas globally.”¹⁶⁷

14 157. Likewise, while Shell orchestrated an entire public relations campaign around
15 energy transitions towards net zero emissions, a fine-print disclaimer in its 2016 net-zero pathways
16 report reads: “We have no immediate plans to move to a net-zero emissions portfolio over our
17 investment horizon of 10–20 years.”¹⁶⁸

18 158. BP, appearing to abide by the representations Lord Browne made in his 1997
19 speech described above, engaged in a rebranding campaign to convey an air of environmental
20 stewardship and renewable energy to its consumers. This included renouncing its membership in
21 the GCC in 2007, changing its name from “British Petroleum” to “BP” while adopting the slogan
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23
24 ¹⁶⁴ Chevron, Chevron Press Release – Chevron Introduces New System to Manage Energy Use (September 25,
2001) <https://www.chevron.com/stories/chevron-introduces-new-system-to-manage-energy-use>.

25 ¹⁶⁵ Benjamin Elgin, Chevron Dims the Lights on Green Power, Bloomberg (May 29, 2014)
<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2014-05-29/chevron-dims-the-lights-on-renewable-energy-projects>.

26 ¹⁶⁶ ConocoPhillips, Sustainable Development (2013) [http://www.conocophillips.com/sustainable-
development/Documents/2013.11.7%201200%20Our%20Approach%20Section%20Final.pdf](http://www.conocophillips.com/sustainable-development/Documents/2013.11.7%201200%20Our%20Approach%20Section%20Final.pdf).

27 ¹⁶⁷ ConocoPhillips Form 10-K, U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission Webpage (December 31, 2012)
<https://www.sec.gov/Archives/edgar/data/1163165/000119312513065426/d452384d10k.htm>.

28 ¹⁶⁸ Energy Transitions Towards Net Zero Emissions (NZE), Shell (2016),
https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B_L1nw8WLu0Bbi1QWnJRcHIZbIE/view (as of June 2, 2017).

1 “Beyond Petroleum,” and adopting a conspicuously green corporate logo. However, BP’s self-
2 touted “alternative energy” investments during this turnaround included investments in natural
3 gas, a fossil fuel, and in 2007 the company reinvested in Canadian tar sands, a particularly high-
4 carbon source of oil.¹⁶⁹ The company ultimately abandoned its wind and solar assets in 2011 and
5 2013, respectively, and even the “Beyond Petroleum” moniker in 2013.¹⁷⁰

6 159. After posting a \$10 billion quarterly profit, Exxon in 2005 stated that “We’re an oil
7 and gas company. In times past, when we tried to get into other businesses, we didn’t do it well.
8 We’d rather re-invest in what we know.”¹⁷¹

9 160. Even if Defendants did not adopt technological or energy source alternatives that
10 would have reduced use of fossil fuel products, reduced global greenhouse gas pollution, and/or
11 mitigated the harms associated with the use and consumption of such products, Defendants could
12 have taken other practical, cost-effective steps to reduce the use of their fossil fuel products, reduce
13 global greenhouse gas pollution associated therewith, and mitigate the harms associated with the
14 use and consumption of such products. These alternatives could have included, among other
15 measures:

- 16 a. Accepting scientific evidence on the validity of anthropogenic climate
17 change and the damages it will cause people and communities, including
18 Plaintiffs, and the environment. Mere acceptance of that information would
19 have altered the debate from *whether* to combat climate change and sea
20 level rise to *how* to combat it; and avoided much of the public confusion
21 that has ensued over nearly 30 years, since at least 1988;
- 22 b. Forthrightly communicating with Defendants’ shareholders, banks,
23 insurers, the public, regulators and Plaintiffs about the global warming and
24 sea level rise hazards of Defendants’ fossil fuel products that were known
25

26 ¹⁶⁹ Fred Pearce, Greenwash: BP and the Myth of a World ‘Beyond Petroleum,’ The Guardian, (November 20, 2008)
<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2008/nov/20/fossilfuels-energy>.

27 ¹⁷⁰ Javier E. David, ‘Beyond Petroleum’ No More? BP Goes Back to Basics, CNBC (April 20, 2013)
<http://www.cnbc.com/id/100647034>.

28 ¹⁷¹ James R. Healy, Alternate Energy Not in Cards at ExxonMobil (October 28, 2005)
https://usatoday30.usatoday.com/money/industries/energy/2005-10-27-oil-invest-usat_x.htm.

1 to Defendants, would have enabled those groups to make material, informed
2 decisions about whether and how to address climate change and sea level
3 rise vis-à-vis Defendants' products;

4 c. Refraining from affirmative efforts, whether directly, through coalitions, or
5 through front groups, to distort public debate, and to cause many consumers
6 and business and political leaders to think the relevant science was far less
7 certain that it actually was;

8 d. Sharing their internal scientific research with the public, and with other
9 scientists and business leaders, so as to increase public understanding of the
10 scientific underpinnings of climate change its relation to Defendants' fossil
11 fuel products;

12 e. Supporting and encouraging policies to avoid dangerous climate change,
13 and demonstrating corporate leadership in addressing the challenges of
14 transitioning to a low-carbon economy;

15 f. Prioritizing alternative sources of energy through sustained investment
16 and research on renewable energy sources to replace dependence on
17 Defendants' inherently hazardous fossil fuel products;

18 g. Adopting their shareholders' concerns about Defendants' need to protect
19 their businesses from the inevitable consequences of profiting from their
20 fossil fuel products. Over the period of 1990-2015, Defendants'
21 shareholders proposed hundreds of resolutions to change Defendants'
22 policies and business practices regarding climate change. These included
23 increasing renewable energy investment, cutting emissions, and performing
24 carbon risk assessments, among others.

25 161. Despite their knowledge of the foreseeable harms associated with the consumption
26 of Defendants' fossil fuel products, and despite the existence and fossil fuel industry knowledge
27 of opportunities that would have reduced the foreseeable dangers associated with those products,
28

1 Defendants wrongfully and falsely promoted, campaigned against regulation of, and concealed the
2 hazards of use of their fossil fuel products.

3 **H. Defendants Caused Plaintiffs' Injuries**

4 162. Defendants individually and collectively extracted a substantial percentage of all
5 raw fossil fuels extracted globally since 1965.

6 163. CO₂ emissions that are attributable to fossil fuels that Defendants extracted from
7 the Earth and injected into the market are responsible for a substantial percentage of greenhouse
8 gas pollution since 1965.

9 164. Defendants' individual and collective conduct, including, but not limited to, their
10 extraction, refining, and/or formulation of fossil fuel products; their introduction of fossil fuel
11 products into the stream of commerce; their wrongful promotion of their fossil fuel products and
12 concealment of known hazards associated with use of those products; and their failure to pursue
13 less hazardous alternatives available to them; is a substantial factor in causing the increase in global
14 mean temperature and consequent increase in global mean sea surface height since 1965.

15 165. Defendants have actually and proximately caused the sea levels to rise, increased
16 the destructive impacts of storm surges, increased coastal erosion, exacerbated the onshore impact
17 of regular tidal ebb and flow, caused saltwater intrusion, and caused consequent social and
18 economic injuries associated with the aforementioned physical and environmental impacts, among
19 other impacts, resulting in inundation, destruction, and/or other interference with Plaintiffs'
20 property and citizenry.

21 166. Plaintiffs have already incurred, and will foreseeably continue to incur, injuries and
22 damages because of sea level rise caused by Defendants' conduct.

23 167. But for Defendants' conduct, Plaintiffs would have suffered no or far less injuries
24 and damages than they have, and will foreseeably endure, due to expected anthropogenic sea level
25 rise.

26 168. San Mateo County has experienced significant sea level rise over the last half
27 century attributable to Defendants' conduct.
28

1 169. The San Francisco Bay Area, including San Mateo County, has experienced
2 significant sea level rise over the last half century attributable to Defendants' conduct.¹⁷² San
3 Mateo County will experience additional, significant, and dangerous sea level rise by 2100,¹⁷³ and
4 the increases will continue and accelerate. Additionally, San Mateo County will experience greater
5 committed sea level rise due to the "locked in" greenhouse gases already emitted.¹⁷⁴ The County
6 will suffer greater overall sea level rise than the global average.¹⁷⁵

7 170. In addition to weather and climate changes already observed, the County is at an
8 increased risk of suffering extreme injuries in the future. For example, there is a 93% chance that
9 the County experiences a devastating three-foot flood before the year 2050, and a 50% chance that
10 such a flood occurs before 2030. Average sea level rise along the County's shores are expected to
11 rise by almost three feet by the year 2100, causing multiple, predictable impacts, and exacerbating
12 the impacts of extreme events.

13 171. San Mateo County published a Sea Level Rise Vulnerability Analysis on April 5,
14 2017. The Assessment is the County's first analysis of its overall vulnerability to sea level rise and
15 its impacts from permanent inundation, temporary flooding caused by storm events, erosion, and
16 saltwater intrusion. The Assessment formally identifies actual risks to the County expected with
17 three feet of sea level rise, and the consequences associated with taking no action to prevent or
18 mitigate the harms associated with those expected impacts.

19 172. Areas of the County that already experience regular flooding and that will suffer
20 further due to elevated sea level include, but are not limited to, Pescadero (especially near
21 Pescadero and Butano Creeks), Half Moon Bay (especially near Denniston Creek), East Palo Alto,
22

23 ¹⁷² Griggs, et al. (CA Ocean Protection Council Science Advisory Team Working Group), Rising Seas in California:
24 An Update on Sea-Level Rise Science, California Ocean Science Trust (April 2017) p. 23, box 2, figure 2.

25 ¹⁷³ Gary Griggs et al., Rising Seas in California: An Update on Sea-Level Rise Science, California Ocean Science
26 Trust, p. 26, Table 1(b) (April 2017), <http://www.opc.ca.gov/webmaster/ftp/pdf/docs/rising-seas-in-california-an-update-on-sea-level-rise-science.pdf>.

27 ¹⁷⁴ Peter U. Clark et al., Consequences of Twenty-First-Century Policy for Multi-Millennial Climate and Sea-Level
28 Change, *Nature Climate Change* Vol. 6, 363-65 (2016).

¹⁷⁵ Global sea level rise is projected to be 82.7 cm (32.6 inches) above 2000 levels by 2100. See National Research
Council, Sea-Level Rise for the Coasts of California, Oregon, and Washington: Past Present and Future (2012) at
page 107 at Table 5.2; page 117 at Table 5.3. The San Francisco Bay Area sea level rise is projected to be 91.9 cm
(36.2 inches) over 2000 by 2100. Id.

1 Menlo Park, and the Bayshore communities that adjoin the Bayfront and Highline Canals, the
2 Atherton Channel, and Belmont, San Mateo, Colma, San Francisquito and San Bruno Creeks.¹⁷⁶

3 a. Among other County-owned facilities threatened by the rising water level,
4 San Mateo owns and operates the Coyote Point Recreation Area and Coyote
5 Point Marina, in the City of San Mateo on the shore of San Francisco Bay.
6 The recreation area includes a beach with swimming and wind-surfing
7 areas; several areas for picnicking; a youth playground; a Merchant Marine
8 Memorial; and houses a riflery range, a Wildlife Center, and the Coyote
9 Point Yacht club. The recreation area and Marina are at sea level, and the
10 recreation area is almost entirely flat, such that it is highly vulnerable to
11 inundation in the event of flooding.

12 b. In addition, the County operates the James V. Fitzgerald Marine Reserve on
13 the Pacific Coast in the town of Moss Beach. The Fitzgerald Marine Reserve
14 covers three miles of shoreline, and encompasses a fragile, rocky intertidal
15 ecosystem featuring seaweed, crabs, sponges, anemones, sea stars,
16 mollusks, seals, and fish. The Reserve is a popular and scientifically and
17 ecologically important feature of the County, both for its residents and as
18 an attraction for visitors. Because the Reserve is an intertidal habitat and
19 includes partially submerged reefs, it is extremely sensitive to sea level
20 change, and could be permanently destroyed by inundation and flooding.

21 c. The County further owns and operates critical civil infrastructure that will
22 be threatened with flooding and other harm from increase sea level rise,
23 including the County Center and Hall of Justice, a county animal shelter,
24 the San Carlos Airport, the Maple Street Shelter (a transitional and
25 emergency housing center), two county jails, and unincorporated residential
26 regions including portions of North Fair Oaks, and unincorporated mobile
27

28 ¹⁷⁶See County of San Mateo, Sea Level Rise Vulnerability Assessment, Public Draft, p. 66(April 2017),
<http://seachangesmc.com/current-efforts/vulnerability-assessment/>.

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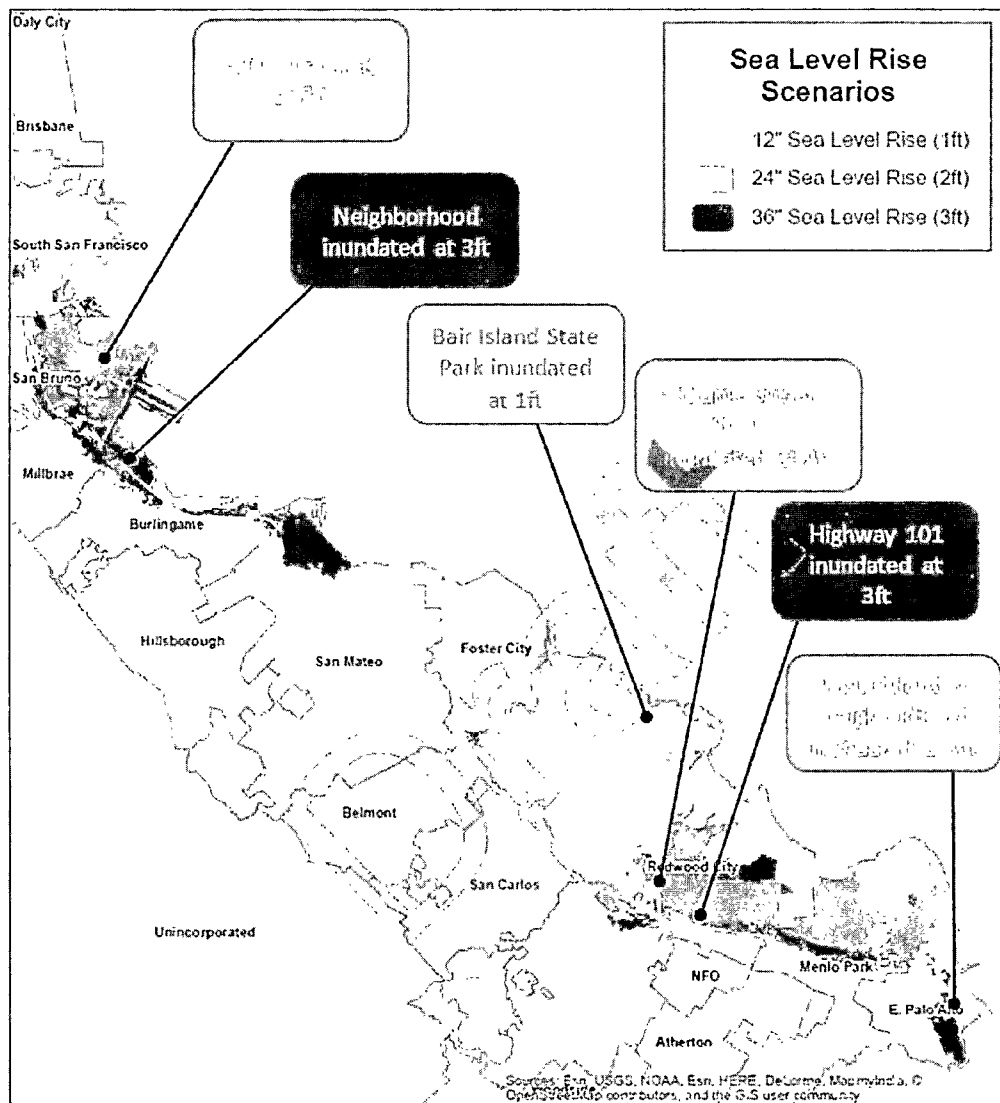
home parks near Redwood City. Indeed, the unincorporated Harbor Industrial Area adjacent to the City of Belmont is already vulnerable to flooding today.

173. Areas of the county that are already erosion hot spots and that will suffer further erosion due to sea level rise include, but are not limited to, Middle and South Ocean Beach, Middle and Lower Daly City, Manor District, Beach Boulevard, Sharp Park, Rockaway Cove, Linda Mar, Princeton and the Pillar Point Harbor, El Granada County Beach, Mirada Road in Half Moon Bay, and Año Nuevo State Park.¹⁷⁷

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¹⁷⁷ See County of San Mateo, Sea Level Rise Vulnerability Assessment, Public Draft, p. 71, Figure 3A.2 (April 2017), <http://seachangesmc.com/current-efforts/vulnerability-assessment/>.

174. The following figure depicts the average high tide level on a daily basis with 1, 2, and 3 feet of sea level rise. With different storm scenarios, much more area could be inundated. As the image shows, much of the County, including some of its most critical infrastructure and valuable Bay-front property, will be submerged at one foot of sea level rise.¹⁷⁸ Importantly, the figure does not include inundation from storms or increased erosion; it shows only inundation threats under average daily clear-weather high tides based on existing shoreline measurements.



¹⁷⁸See County of San Mateo, Sea Level Rise Vulnerability Assessment, Public Draft, p. 87 (April 2017), <http://seachangesmc.com/current-efforts/vulnerability-assessment/>.

1 175. As a direct and proximate result of the acts and omissions of the Defendants'
2 alleged herein, Plaintiffs have incurred millions of dollars of expenses related to planning for and
3 predicting future sea level rise injuries to its real property, improvements thereon, civil
4 infrastructure, and citizens, to preemptively mitigate and/or prevent such injuries. This includes
5 performing a Sea Level Vulnerability Assessment in 2017 at significant expense to the County,
6 which found that parcels of real property valued at a total of \$23 billion situated on Plaintiff's San
7 Francisco Bay shoreline will be threatened with serious or permanent inundation, and a need for
8 \$910 million of infrastructural repair on its ocean coastline. Expected injuries include erosion of
9 ocean- and bay-adjacent public land, erosion and/or inundation of privately owned properties and
10 displacement of residents within the County.

11 176. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' acts and omissions alleged herein,
12 Plaintiffs have incurred sea level rise-related injuries and damages. These include infrastructural
13 repair and reinforcement of roads and beach access.

14 177. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' acts and omissions alleged herein,
15 Plaintiff's real property has been inundated by sea water, causing injury and damages thereto and
16 to improvements thereon, and preventing free passage on, use of, and normal enjoyment of that
17 real property, or permanently destroying it. By way of example, Surfer's Beach, one of Plaintiff's
18 public beach properties near the city of Half Moon Bay, has lost 140 feet of accessible beach since
19 1964 due to erosion, which has been exacerbated and substantially contributed to by sea level rise
20 and increased extreme weather.¹⁷⁹

21 178. Defendants' conduct as described herein is therefore an actual, substantial, and
22 proximate cause of Plaintiffs' sea level rise-related injuries.

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28 ¹⁷⁹ See County of San Mateo, Sea Level Rise Vulnerability Assessment, Public Draft, p. 87 (April 2017),
<http://seachangesmc.com/current-efforts/vulnerability-assessment/>.

1 **VI. CAUSES OF ACTION**

2 **FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION**

3 **(Public Nuisance on Behalf of the People of the State of California)**

4 **(Against All Defendants)**

5 179. The People incorporate by reference each and every allegation contained above, as
6 though set forth herein in full.

7 180. Defendants, and each of them, by their affirmative acts and omissions, have created,
8 contributed to, and assisted in creating, a condition in San Mateo County, and permitted that
9 condition to persist, which constitutes a nuisance by, *inter alia*, increasing local sea level,
10 increasing the frequency and intensity of flooding, and increasing the intensity and frequency of
11 storms and storm-related damage to the County and its residents.

12 181. Defendants specifically created, contributed to, and/or assisted, and/or were a
13 substantial contributing factor in the creation of the public nuisance, by, *inter alia*:

- 14 a. extracting raw fossil fuel products, including crude oil, coal, and natural gas
15 from the Earth, and placing those fossil fuel products into the stream of
16 commerce;
- 17 b. affirmatively and knowingly promoting the sale and use of fossil fuel
18 products which Defendants knew to be hazardous and knew would lead to
19 global warming, sea level rise, more frequent and more intense flooding,
20 and more frequent and more intense storm surges;
- 21 c. affirmatively and knowingly concealing the hazards that Defendants knew
22 would result from the normal use of their fossil fuel products by
23 misrepresenting and casting doubt on the integrity of scientific information
24 related to climate change;
- 25 d. disseminating and funding the dissemination of information intended to
26 mislead customers, consumers, elected officials and regulators regarding
27 known and foreseeable risk of climate change and its consequences, which
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1 follow from the normal, intended use and foreseeable misuse of
2 Defendants' fossil fuel products;

- 3 e. affirmatively and knowingly campaigning against the regulation of their
4 fossil fuel products, despite knowing the hazards associated with the normal
5 use of those products, in order to continue profiting from use of those
6 products by externalizing those known costs onto people, the environment,
7 and communities, including the People; and failing to warn the public about
8 the hazards associated with the use of fossil fuel products.

9 182. The condition created by Defendants substantially and negatively affects the
10 interests of the public at large. In particular, higher sea level, increased storm frequency and
11 intensity, and increased flooding: (1) are harmful and dangerous to human health; (2) are indecent
12 and offensive to the senses of the ordinary person; (3) obstruct and threaten to obstruct the free use
13 of the People's property so as to interfere with the comfortable enjoyment of life and property; and
14 (4) obstruct and threaten to obstruct the free passage and use of navigable lakes, rivers, bays,
15 streams, canals, basins, public parks, squares, streets, and/or highways within San Mateo County.

16 183. The People of the State of California have a common right to be free from the
17 increased severity of these hazards due to climate change and sea level rise.

18 184. The seriousness of rising sea levels and increased weather volatility and flooding
19 is extremely grave, and outweighs the social utility of Defendants' conduct because, *inter alia*,

- 20 a. interference with the public's rights as described above is expected to
21 become so regular and severe that it will cause permanent inundation;
22 b. the ultimate nature of the harm is the destruction of real and personal
23 property, rather than mere annoyance;
24 c. the interference borne is the loss of property and infrastructure within San
25 Mateo County, which will actually be borne by Plaintiff's citizens as loss
26 of use of public property and infrastructure and diversion of tax dollars
27 away from other public services to sea level rise;
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- 1 d. Plaintiff's coastal property, which serves myriad uses including industrial,
2 residential, infrastructural, commercial and ecological, is not suitable for
3 regular inundation;
- 4 e. the social benefit of placing fossil fuels into the stream of commerce is
5 outweighed by the availability of other sources of energy that could have
6 been placed into the stream of commerce that would not have caused sea
7 level rise; Defendants, and each of them, knew of the external costs of
8 placing their fossil fuel products into the stream of commerce, and rather
9 than striving to mitigate those externalities, Defendants instead acted
10 affirmatively to obscure them from public consciousness;
- 11 f. the cost to society of each ton of greenhouse gases emitted into the
12 atmosphere increases as total global emissions increase, so that unchecked
13 extraction and consumption of fossil fuel products is more harmful and
14 costly than moderated extraction and consumption; and
- 15 g. it was practical for Defendants, and each of them, in light of their extensive
16 knowledge of the hazards of placing fossil fuel products into the stream of
17 commerce and extensive scientific engineering expertise, to develop better
18 technologies and to pursue and adopt known, practical, and available
19 technologies, energy sources, and business practices that would have
20 mitigated their greenhouse gas pollution and eased the transition to a lower
21 carbon economy.

22 185. This public nuisance affects and/or interferes with the rights of an entire community
23 and/or the rights of a considerable number of persons in the State of California to health, safety,
24 peace, comfort, and convenience.

25 186. Defendants' wrongful conduct was oppressive, malicious, and fraudulent, in that
26 their conduct was willful, intentional, and in conscious disregard for the rights of others.
27 Defendants' conduct was so vile, base, and contemptible that it would be looked down upon and
28 despised by reasonable people, justifying an award of punitive and exemplary damages in an

1 amount subject to proof at trial, and justifying equitable disgorgement of all profits Defendants
2 obtained through their unlawful and outrageous conduct.

3 187. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' conduct, as set forth above, the
4 common rights enjoyed by the People of the State of California and by the general public in the
5 County of San Mateo have been unreasonably interfered with because Defendants knew or should
6 have known that their conduct would create a continuing problem with long-lasting significant
7 negative effects on the rights of the public.

8 188. Defendants' actions are a direct and legal cause of the public nuisance.

9 189. The People of the State of California, acting through the County of San Mateo, have
10 a clearly ascertainable right to have the public nuisance created by Defendants abated.

11 190. Defendants' acts and omissions as alleged herein are indivisible causes of Plaintiff
12 the People of the State of California's injuries as alleged herein.

13 191. Wherefore, the People of the State of California pray for relief as set forth below.

14 **SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION**

15 **(Public Nuisance on Behalf of San Mateo County)**

16 **(Against All Defendants)**

17 192. Plaintiff San Mateo County incorporates by reference each and every allegation
18 contained above, as though set forth herein in full.

19 193. Defendants, and each of them, by their acts and omission, have created a condition
20 and permitted that condition to persist, which constitutes a nuisance by increasing sea level,
21 increasing the frequency and intensity of flooding, and increasing the intensity and frequency of
22 storms, all of which have resulted in, and will continue to result in, injury to Plaintiff.

23 194. The condition created by Defendants substantially and negatively affects the
24 interests of the public at large. In particular, higher sea level, increased storm frequency and
25 intensity, and increased flooding: (1) are harmful and dangerous to human health; (2) are indecent
26 and offensive to the senses of the ordinary person; (3) obstruct and threaten to obstruct the free use
27 of property within the County so as to interfere with the comfortable enjoyment of life and
28 property; and (4) obstruct and threaten to obstruct the free passage and use of navigable lakes,

1 rivers, bays, streams, canals, basins, public parks, squares, streets, and/or highways within San
2 Mateo County.

3 195. Plaintiff San Mateo County includes coastal communities with substantial numbers
4 of residents and citizens living on and near the coast, and substantial numbers of businesses and
5 amenities on or near the coast; the condition created by Defendants therefore affects substantial
6 numbers of people in Plaintiff's communities at the same time.

7 196. The seriousness of rising sea levels and increased weather volatility and flooding
8 is extremely grave, and outweighs the social utility of Defendants' conduct. The seriousness of the
9 harm to Plaintiff San Mateo County outweighs the benefit of Defendants' and each of their
10 conduct, because

- 11 a. the interference with Plaintiff's property is expected to become so regular
12 and severe as to be a permanent inundation;
- 13 b. the nature of the harm is the destruction of Plaintiff's property, rather than
14 mere annoyance;
- 15 c. the interference borne by Plaintiff is the loss of its property and
16 infrastructure, which will actually be borne by Plaintiff's citizens as loss of
17 use of public property and infrastructure and diversion of tax dollars away
18 from other public services to sea level rise;
- 19 d. Plaintiff's coastal public and private property, which serves myriad uses
20 including industrial, residential, infrastructural, commercial and ecological,
21 is not suitable for regular inundation;
- 22 e. the burden on Plaintiff to mitigate and prevent the interference with its
23 property is significant and severe, as costs associated with addressing sea
24 level rise caused by Defendants are projected to be in the billions of dollars
25 over the next several decades;
- 26 f. the social benefit of placing fossil fuels into the stream of commerce, if any,
27 is outweighed by the availability of other sources of energy that could have
28 been placed into the stream of commerce that would not have caused sea

- 1 level rise; Defendants, and each of them, knew of the external costs of
2 placing their fossil fuel products into the stream of commerce, and rather
3 than striving to mitigate those externalities, instead acted affirmatively to
4 obscure them from public consciousness;
- 5 g. the social cost of each ton of CO₂ emitted into the atmosphere increases as
6 total global emissions increase, so that unchecked extraction and
7 consumption of fossil fuel products is more harmful and costly than
8 moderated extraction and consumption; and
- 9 h. it was practical for Defendants, and each of them, in light of their extensive
10 knowledge of the hazards of placing fossil fuel products into the stream of
11 commerce and extensive scientific engineering expertise, to develop better
12 technologies and to pursue and adopt known, practical, and available
13 technologies, energy sources, and business practices that would have
14 mitigated their greenhouse gas pollution and eased the transition to a lower
15 carbon economy.

16 197. In addition to the harms suffered by the public at large, Plaintiff has suffered special
17 injuries different in kind. Among other harms,

- 18 a. Plaintiff has been forced to spend or set aside significant funds to assess,
19 plan for, and enact infrastructure changes needed to mitigate rising sea
20 levels on Plaintiff's publicly owned beaches and other public coastal
21 property;
- 22 b. Plaintiff has had to plan for and provide additional emergency and other
23 public services in response to more frequent and more intense flooding and
24 storm surges on both properties owned by Plaintiff, and properties owned,
25 leased, and utilized by residents, citizens, and visitors to Plaintiff's
26 communities.

27 198. Defendants' wrongful conduct was oppressive, malicious, and fraudulent, in that
28 their conduct was willful, intentional, and in conscious disregard for the rights of others.

1 Defendants' conduct was so vile, base, and contemptible that it would be looked down upon and
2 despised by reasonable people, justifying an award of punitive and exemplary damages in an
3 amount subject to proof at trial, and justifying equitable disgorgement of all profits Defendants
4 obtained through their unlawful and outrageous conduct.

5 199. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' conduct, as set forth above, the
6 County of San Mateo has been unreasonably interfered with because Defendants knew or should
7 have known that their conduct would create a continuing problem with long-lasting significant
8 negative effects on the rights of the public.

9 200. Defendants' actions are a direct and legal cause of the public nuisance.

10 201. Defendants' acts and omissions as alleged herein are indivisible causes of Plaintiff
11 San Mateo County's injuries as alleged herein.

12 202. Wherefore, Plaintiff prays for relief as set forth below.

13 **THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION**

14 **(Strict Liability—Failure to Warn on behalf of San Mateo County)**

15 **(Against All Defendants)**

16 203. Plaintiff San Mateo County incorporates by reference each and every allegation
17 contained above, as though set forth herein in full.

18 204. Defendants, and each of them, extracted raw fossil fuel products, including crude
19 oil, coal, and natural gas from the Earth, and placed those fossil fuel products into the stream
20 of commerce.

21 205. Defendants, and each of them, extracted, refined, formulated, designed, packaged,
22 distributed, tested, constructed, fabricated, analyzed, recommended, merchandised, advertised,
23 promoted and/or sold fossil fuel products, which were intended by Defendants, and each of them,
24 to be burned for energy, refined into petrochemicals, and refined and/or incorporated into
25 petrochemical products including fuels and plastics.

26 206. Defendants, and each of them, heavily marketed, promoted, and advertised fossil
27 fuel products and their derivatives, which were sold or used by their respective affiliates and
28 subsidiaries. Defendants received direct financial benefit from their affiliates' and subsidiaries'

1 sales of fossil fuel products. Defendants' role as promoter and marketer was integral to their
2 respective businesses and a necessary factor in bringing fossil fuel products and their derivatives
3 to the consumer market, such that Defendants had control over, and a substantial ability to
4 influence, the manufacturing and distribution processes of their affiliates and subsidiaries.

5 207. Throughout the times at issue, Defendants individually and collectively knew or
6 should have known, in light of the scientific knowledge generally accepted at the time, that fossil
7 fuel products, whether used as intended or misused in a foreseeable manner, release greenhouse
8 gases into the atmosphere that inevitably cause *inter alia* global warming, sea level rise, increased
9 intensity and frequency of nuisance flooding, and increased intensity and frequency of
10 storm surges.

11 208. Throughout the times at issue and continuing today, fossil fuel products presented
12 and still present a substantial risk of injury to Plaintiff through the climate effects described above,
13 whether used as intended or misused in a reasonably foreseeable manner.

14 209. Throughout the times at issue, the ordinary consumer would not recognize that the
15 use or foreseeable misuse of fossil fuel products causes global and localized changes in climate,
16 including those effects described herein.

17 210. Throughout the times at issue, Defendants individually and in concert widely
18 disseminated marketing materials, refuted the scientific knowledge generally accepted at the time,
19 and advanced pseudo-scientific theories of their own, and developed public relations campaigns
20 and materials that prevented reasonable consumers from recognizing the risk that fossil fuel
21 products would cause grave climate changes, including those described herein.

22 211. Defendants, and each of them, failed to adequately warn customers, consumers,
23 elected officials and regulators of known and foreseeable risk of climate change and the
24 consequences that inevitably follow from the normal, intended use and foreseeable misuse of
25 Defendants' fossil fuel products.

26 212. Defendants' wrongful conduct was oppressive, malicious, and fraudulent, in that
27 their conduct was willful, intentional, and in conscious disregard for the rights of others.
28 Defendants' conduct was so vile, base, and contemptible that it would be looked down upon and

1 despised by reasonable people, justifying an award of punitive and exemplary damages in an
2 amount subject to proof at trial, and justifying equitable disgorgement of all profits Defendants
3 obtained through their unlawful and outrageous conduct.

4 213. As a direct and proximate result of the defects previously described, fossil fuel
5 products caused Plaintiff San Mateo County to sustain the injuries and damages set forth in this
6 Complaint, including damage to publicly owned infrastructure and real property, and the creation
7 and maintenance of a nuisance that interferes with the rights of the County, its residents, and of
8 the People.

9 214. Defendants' acts and omissions as alleged herein are indivisible causes of Plaintiff
10 San Mateo County's injuries as alleged herein.

11 215. Wherefore, Plaintiff prays for relief as set forth below.

12 **FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

13 **(Strict Liability—Design Defect on behalf of San Mateo County)**

14 **(Against All Defendants)**

15 216. Plaintiff San Mateo County incorporates by reference each and every allegation
16 contained above, as though set forth herein in full.

17 217. Defendants, and each of them, extracted raw fossil fuel products, including crude
18 oil, coal, and natural gas from the Earth and placed those fossil fuel products into the stream of
19 commerce.

20 218. Defendants, and each of them, extracted, refined, formulated, designed, packaged,
21 distributed, tested, constructed, fabricated, analyzed, recommended, merchandised, advertised,
22 promoted and/or sold fossil fuel products, which were intended by Defendants, and each of them,
23 to be burned for energy, refined into petrochemicals, and refined and/or incorporated into
24 petrochemical products including but not limited to fuels and plastics.

25 219. Defendants, and each of them, heavily marketed, promoted, and advertised fossil
26 fuel products and their derivatives, which were sold or used by their respective affiliates and
27 subsidiaries. Defendants' received direct financial benefit from their affiliates' and subsidiaries'
28 sales of fossil fuel products. Defendants role as promoter and marketer was integral to their

1 respective businesses and a necessary factor in bringing fossil fuel products and their derivatives
2 to the consumer market, such that Defendants had control over, and a substantial ability to
3 influence, the manufacturing and distribution processes of their affiliates and subsidiaries.

4 220. Throughout the time at issue, fossil fuel products have not performed as safely as
5 an ordinary consumer would expect them to because greenhouse gas emissions from their use
6 cause numerous global and local changes to Earth's climate. In particular, ordinary consumers did
7 not expect that:

- 8 a. fossil fuel products are the primary cause of global warming since the dawn
9 of the industrial revolution, and by far the primary cause of global warming
10 acceleration in the 20th and 21st centuries;
- 11 b. fossil fuel products are the primary cause of accelerating sea level rise since
12 the beginning of the 20th century;
- 13 c. unmitigated use of fossil fuel products causes increased frequency and
14 intensity of nuisance flooding in coastal communities;
- 15 d. fossil fuel products cause increased frequency and intensity of storm surges
16 in coastal communities;
- 17 e. by increasing sea level rise, nuisance flooding, and storm surges, fossil fuel
18 products cause damage to publicly and privately owned coastal
19 infrastructure and buildings, including homes;
- 20 f. the social cost of each ton of CO₂ emitted into the atmosphere increases as
21 total global emissions increase, so that unchecked extraction and
22 consumption of fossil fuel products is more harmful and costly than
23 moderated extraction and consumption; and
- 24 g. for these reasons and others, the unmitigated use of fossil fuel products
25 present significant threats to the environment and human health and
26 welfare, especially in coastal communities.

27 221. Throughout the times at issue, Defendants individually and in concert widely
28 disseminated marketing materials, refuted the scientific knowledge generally accepted at the time,

1 advanced pseudo-scientific theories of their own, and developed public relations materials, among
2 other public messaging efforts, that prevented reasonable consumers from forming an expectation
3 that fossil fuel products would cause grave climate changes, including those described herein.

4 222. Additionally, and in the alternative, Defendants' fossil fuel products are defective
5 because the risks they pose to consumers and to the public, including and especially to Plaintiff,
6 outweigh their benefits.

7 a. the gravity of the potential harms caused by fossil fuel products is extreme;
8 global warming and its attendant consequences are guaranteed to occur
9 following the use or foreseeable misuse of fossil fuel products because fossil
10 fuel products inherently release greenhouse gases into the atmosphere; and
11 global warming would continue to occur for decades even if all greenhouse
12 gas emissions ceased.

13 b. the social benefit of the purpose of placing fossil fuels into the stream of
14 commerce is overshadowed by the availability of other sources of energy
15 that could have been placed into the stream of commerce that would not
16 have caused sea level rise and accordingly Plaintiff's injuries; Defendants,
17 and each of them, knew of the external costs of placing their fossil fuel
18 products into the stream of commerce, and rather than striving to mitigate
19 those externalities, instead acted affirmatively to obscure them from public
20 consciousness.

21 c. Defendants' campaign of disinformation regarding global warming and the
22 climatic effects of fossil fuel products prevented customers, consumers,
23 regulators, and the general public from taking steps to mitigate the
24 inevitable consequences of fossil fuel consumption, and incorporating those
25 consequences into either short-term decisions or long-term planning.

26 d. the cost to society of each ton of CO₂ emitted into the atmosphere increases
27 as total global emissions increase so that unchecked extraction and
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1 consumption of fossil fuel products is more harmful and costly than
2 moderated extraction and consumption.

3 e. it was practical for Defendants, and each of them, in light of their extensive
4 knowledge of the hazards of placing fossil fuel products into the stream of
5 commerce, to pursue and adopt known, practical, and available
6 technologies, energy sources, and business practices that would have
7 mitigated their greenhouse gas pollution and eased the transition to a lower
8 carbon economy, reduced global CO₂ emissions, and mitigated the harms
9 associated with the use and consumption of such products.

10 223. Defendants' individual and aggregate fossil fuel products were used in a manner
11 for which they were intended to be used, or misused in a manner foreseeable to Defendants and
12 each of them, by individual and corporate consumers, the result of which was the addition of CO₂
13 emissions to the global atmosphere with attendant global and local consequences.

14 224. As a direct and proximate result of the defects in fossil fuel products described
15 herein, Plaintiff sustained the injuries and damages set forth in this Complaint, including damage
16 to publicly and privately owned infrastructure and real property.

17 225. Defendants' wrongful conduct was oppressive, malicious, and fraudulent, in that
18 their conduct was willful, intentional, and in conscious disregard for the rights of others.
19 Defendants' conduct was so vile, base, and contemptible that it would be looked down upon and
20 despised by reasonable people, justifying an award of punitive and exemplary damages in an
21 amount subject to proof at trial, and justifying equitable disgorgement of all profits Defendants
22 obtained through their unlawful and outrageous conduct.

23 226. Defendants' acts and omissions as alleged herein are indivisible causes of Plaintiff
24 San Mateo County's injuries and damage as alleged herein.

25 227. Wherefore, Plaintiff prays for relief as set forth below.
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1 **FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

2 **(Private Nuisance on behalf of San Mateo County)**

3 **(Against All Defendants)**

4 228. Plaintiff San Mateo County incorporates by reference each and every allegation
5 contained above, as though set forth herein in full.

6 229. Plaintiff owns and manages extensive property within San Mateo County borders
7 that has been injured and will be injured by rising sea levels.

8 230. Defendants, and each of them, by their acts and omission, have created a condition
9 on Plaintiff's property, and permitted that condition to persist, which constitutes a nuisance by
10 increasing sea level, increasing the frequency and intensity of flooding, and increasing the intensity
11 and frequency of storms.

12 231. The condition created by Defendants substantially and negatively affects Plaintiff's
13 interest in its own coastal real property. In particular, higher sea level, increased storm frequency
14 and intensity, and increased flooding are:

- 15 a. harmful and dangerous to human health;
- 16 b. indecent and offensive to the senses of the ordinary person;
- 17 c. threatening to obstruct the free use of Plaintiff's property and property
18 owned by Plaintiff's residents and citizens, so as to interfere with the
19 comfortable enjoyment of life and property; and
- 20 d. threatening to obstruct the free passage and use of navigable lakes, rivers,
21 bays, streams, canals, basins, public parks, squares, streets, and/or highways
22 within Plaintiff's communities.

23 232. The condition described above created by Defendants' conduct substantially
24 interferes with Plaintiff's use and quiet enjoyment of its coastal properties.

25 233. Plaintiff has not consented to Defendants' conduct in creating the condition that has
26 led to sea level rise and its associated harms.

27 234. The ordinary person, and the ordinary city or county in Plaintiff's position, would
28 be reasonably annoyed and disturbed by Defendants' conduct and the condition created thereby,

1 because, *inter alia*, it infringes on Plaintiff's ability to provide public space to residents and
2 visitors, and has forced Plaintiff to plan for and provide additional emergency and other public
3 services in response to more frequent and more intense flooding and storm surges on properties
4 owned by Plaintiff.

5 235. The seriousness of rising sea levels and increased weather volatility and flooding
6 is extremely grave, and outweighs the social utility of Defendants' conduct. The seriousness of the
7 harm to Plaintiff outweighs the benefit of Defendants' and each of their conduct, because:

- 8 a. the interference with Plaintiff's property is expected to become so regular
9 and severe as to be a permanent inundation;
- 10 b. the nature of the harm is the destruction of Plaintiff's public and private real
11 and personal property, rather than mere annoyance;
- 12 c. the interference borne by Plaintiff is the loss of its private and public
13 property and infrastructure, which will actually be borne by Plaintiff's
14 citizens as loss of use of public property and infrastructure and diversion of
15 tax dollars away from other public services to sea level rise;
- 16 d. Plaintiff's coastal public and private property, which serves myriad uses
17 including industrial, residential, infrastructural, commercial and ecological,
18 is not suitable for regular inundation;
- 19 e. the burden on Plaintiff to mitigate and prevent the interference with its
20 property is significant and severe, as costs associated with addressing sea
21 level rise caused by Defendants are projected to be in the billions of dollars
22 over the next several decades;
- 23 f. the social benefit of the purpose of placing fossil fuels into the stream of
24 commerce is overshadowed by the availability of other sources of energy
25 that could have been placed into the stream of commerce that would not
26 have caused sea level rise; Defendants, and each of them, knew of the
27 external costs of placing their fossil fuel products into the stream of
28 commerce, and rather than striving to mitigate those externalities,

- 1 Defendants acted affirmatively to obscure those costs from public
2 consciousness;
- 3 g. the social cost each ton of CO₂ emitted into the atmosphere increases as
4 total global emissions increase, so that unchecked extraction and
5 consumption of fossil fuel products is more harmful and costly than
6 moderated extraction and consumption;
- 7 h. Defendants' campaign of disinformation regarding global warming and the
8 climatic effects of fossil fuel products prevented customers, consumers,
9 regulators, and the general public from taking steps to mitigate the
10 inevitable consequences of fossil fuel consumption, and incorporating those
11 consequences into either short-term decisions or long-term planning; and
- 12 i. It was practical for Defendants, and each of them, in light of their extensive
13 knowledge of the hazards of placing fossil fuel products into the stream of
14 commerce, to pursue and adopt known, practical, and available
15 technologies, energy sources, and business practices that would have
16 mitigated their greenhouse gas pollution and eased the transition to a lower
17 carbon economy, reduced global CO₂ emissions, and mitigated the harms
18 associated with the use and consumption of such products.

19 236. Defendants' conduct was a direct and proximate cause of Plaintiff's injuries, and a
20 substantial factor in the harms suffered by Plaintiff as described in this Complaint.

21 237. Defendants' acts and omissions as alleged herein are indivisible causes of Plaintiff
22 San Mateo County's injuries and damage as alleged herein.

23 238. Wherefore, Plaintiff prays for relief as set forth below.

24 **SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION**
25 **(Negligence on Behalf of San Mateo County)**
26 **(Against All Defendants)**

27 239. Plaintiff San Mateo County incorporates by reference each and every allegation
28 contained above, as though set forth herein in full.

1 240. Defendants knew or should have known of the climate effects inherently caused by
2 the normal use and operation of their fossil fuel products, including the likelihood and likely
3 severity of global and local sea level rise and its consequences, and including Plaintiff's injuries
4 and damages described herein.

5 241. Defendants, collectively and individually, had a duty to use due care in developing,
6 designing, testing, inspecting and distributing their fossil fuel products. That duty obligated
7 Defendants collectively and individually to, *inter alia*, prevent defective products from entering
8 the stream of commerce, and prevent reasonably foreseeable harm that could have resulted from
9 the ordinary use or reasonably foreseeable misuse of Defendants' products.

10 242. Defendants, and each of them, breached their duty of due care by, *inter alia*:

- 11 a. allowing fossil fuel products to enter the stream of commerce, despite
12 knowing them to be defective due to their inevitable propensity to cause sea
13 level rise and its consequences;
- 14 b. failing to act on the information and warnings they received from their own
15 internal research staff, as well as from the international scientific
16 community, that the unabated extraction, promotion and sale of their fossil
17 fuel products would result in material dangers to the public, including San
18 Mateo County;
- 19 c. failing to take actions including but not limited to pursuing and adopting
20 known, practical, and available technologies, energy sources, and business
21 practices that would have mitigated their greenhouse gas pollution and
22 eased the transition to a lower carbon economy; shifting to non-fossil fuel
23 products, and researching and/or offering technologies to mitigate CO₂
24 emissions in conjunction with sale and distribution of their fossil fuel
25 products; and pursuing other available alternatives that would have
26 prevented or mitigated the injuries to Plaintiff caused by sea level rise that
27 Defendants, and each of them, knew or should have foreseen would
28 inevitably result from use of Defendants' fossil fuel products;

1 d. engaging in a campaign of disinformation regarding global warming and
2 the climatic effects of fossil fuel products that prevented customers,
3 consumers, regulators, and the general public from staking steps to mitigate
4 the inevitable consequences of fossil fuel consumption, and incorporating
5 those consequences into either short-term decisions or long-term planning.

6 243. Defendants individual and collective acts and omissions were actual, substantial
7 causes of sea level rise and its consequences, including Plaintiff's injuries and damages set forth
8 herein, as sea levels would not have risen to the levels that caused Plaintiff's injuries but for
9 Defendants introduction of their fossil fuel products into the stream of commerce.

10 244. Defendants individual and collective acts and omissions were proximate causes of
11 sea level rise and its consequences, including Plaintiff's injuries and damages set forth herein. No
12 other act, omission, or natural phenomenon intervened in the chain of causation between
13 Defendants' conduct and Plaintiff's injuries and damages, or superseded Defendants' breach of
14 their duties' substantiality in causing Plaintiff's injuries and damages.

15 245. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' and each of their acts and
16 omissions, Plaintiff sustained injuries and damages as set forth herein.

17 246. Defendants' acts and omissions as alleged herein are indivisible causes of Plaintiff
18 San Mateo County's injuries and damage as alleged herein.

19 247. Defendants' wrongful conduct was oppressive, malicious, and fraudulent, in that
20 their conduct was willful, intentional, and in conscious disregard for the rights of others.
21 Defendants' conduct was so vile, base, and contemptible that it would be looked down upon and
22 despised by reasonable people, justifying an award of punitive and exemplary damages in an
23 amount subject to proof at trial, and justifying equitable disgorgement of all profits Defendants
24 obtained through their unlawful and outrageous conduct.

25 248. Wherefore, Plaintiff prays for relief as set forth below.
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1 **SEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

2 **(Negligence - Failure to Warn on Behalf of San Mateo County)**

3 **(Against All Defendants)**

4 249. Plaintiff San Mateo County incorporates by reference each and every allegation
5 contained above, as though set forth herein in full.

6 250. Defendants knew or should have known, based on information passed to them from
7 their internal research divisions and affiliates and/or from the international scientific community,
8 of the climate effects inherently caused by the normal use and operation of their fossil fuel
9 products, including the likelihood and likely severity of global warming, global and local sea level
10 rise, and their associated consequences, including Plaintiff's injuries and damages described
11 herein.

12 251. Defendants knew or should have known, based on information passed to them from
13 their internal research divisions and affiliates and/or from the international scientific community,
14 that the climate effects described above rendered their fossil fuel products dangerous, or likely to
15 be dangerous, when used as intended or misused in a reasonably foreseeable manner.

16 252. Throughout the times at issue, Defendants failed to adequately warn any consumers
17 or any other party of the climate effects that inevitably flow from the use or foreseeable misuse of
18 their fossil fuel products.

19 253. Throughout the times at issue, Defendants individually and in concert widely
20 disseminated marketing materials, refuted the scientific knowledge generally accepted at the time,
21 advanced pseudo-scientific theories of their own, and developed public relations materials that
22 prevented reasonable consumers from recognizing the risk that fossil fuel products would cause
23 grave climate changes, undermining and rendering ineffective any warnings that Defendants may
24 have also disseminated.

25 254. Given the grave dangers presented by the climate effects that inevitably flow from
26 the normal use or foreseeable misuse of fossil fuel products, a reasonable extractor, manufacturer,
27 formulator, seller, or other participant responsible for introducing fossil fuel products into the
28 stream of commerce, would have warned of those known, inevitable climate effects.

1 255. Defendants' conduct was a direct and proximate cause of Plaintiff's injuries and a
2 substantial factor in the harms suffered by Plaintiff as described in this Complaint.

3 256. Defendants' acts and omissions as alleged herein are indivisible causes of Plaintiff
4 San Mateo County's injuries and damage as alleged herein.

5 257. Defendants' wrongful conduct was oppressive, malicious, and fraudulent, in that
6 their conduct was willful, intentional, and in conscious disregard for the rights of others.
7 Defendants' conduct was so vile, base, and contemptible that it would be looked down upon and
8 despised by reasonable people, justifying an award of punitive and exemplary damages in an
9 amount subject to proof at trial, and justifying equitable disgorgement of all profits Defendants
10 obtained through their unlawful and outrageous conduct.

11 258. Wherefore, Plaintiff prays for relief as set forth below.

12 **EIGHTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

13 **(Trespass on Behalf of San Mateo County)**

14 **(Against All Defendants)**

15 259. Plaintiff San Mateo County incorporates by reference each and every allegation
16 contained above, as though set forth herein in full.

17 260. Plaintiff San Mateo County owns, leases, occupies, and/or controls real property
18 within Plaintiff's county boundaries and within communities located within the County.

19 261. Defendants, and each of them, have intentionally, recklessly, or negligently caused
20 ocean waters to enter Plaintiff San Mateo County's property, by extracting, refining, formulating,
21 designing, packaging, distributing, testing, constructing, fabricating, analyzing, recommending,
22 merchandising, advertising, promoting, marketing, and/or selling fossil fuel products, knowing
23 those products in their normal operation and use or foreseeable misuse would cause global and
24 local sea levels to rise, cause flooding to become more frequent and more intense, and cause storm
25 surges to become more frequent and more intense.

26 262. Plaintiff San Mateo County did not give permission for Defendants, or any of them,
27 to cause ocean water to enter its property.
28

1 263. Plaintiff San Mateo County has been and continues to be actually injured and
2 continues to suffer damages as a result of Defendants and each of them having caused ocean water
3 to enter their real property, by *inter alia* permanently submerging real property owned by Plaintiff,
4 causing flooding which has invaded and threatens to invade real property owned by Plaintiff and
5 rendered it unusable, and causing storm surges which have invaded and threatened to invade real
6 Property owned by Plaintiff and rendered it unusable.

7 264. Defendants' and each Defendant's introduction of their fossil fuel products into the
8 stream of commerce was a substantial factor in causing the injuries and damages to Plaintiff's
9 public and private real property.

10 265. Defendants' acts and omissions as alleged herein are indivisible causes of Plaintiff
11 San Mateo County's injuries and damage as alleged herein.

12 266. Defendants' wrongful conduct was oppressive, malicious, and fraudulent, in that
13 their conduct was willful, intentional, and in conscious disregard for the rights of others.
14 Defendants' conduct was so vile, base, and contemptible that it would be looked down upon and
15 despised by reasonable people, justifying an award of punitive and exemplary damages in an
16 amount subject to proof at trial, and justifying equitable disgorgement of all profits Defendants
17 obtained through their unlawful and outrageous conduct.

18 267. Wherefore, Plaintiff prays for relief as set forth below.

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1 **VII. PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

- 2 1. Compensatory damages in an amount according to proof;
- 3 2. Equitable relief to abate the nuisances complained of herein;
- 4 3. Reasonable attorneys' fees pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure 1021.5
- 5 or otherwise;
- 6 4. Punitive damages;
- 7 5. Disgorgement of profits;
- 8 6. Costs of suit; and
- 9 7. For such and other relief as the court may deem proper.

10

11 Dated: July 17, 2017

**OFFICE OF THE COUNTY COUNSEL
COUNTY OF SAN MATEO**

12

13

14 By: 

15 JOHN C. BEIERS, County Counsel
16 PAUL A. OKADA, Chief Deputy
17 DAVID A. SILBERMAN, Chief Deputy
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23 *Attorneys for The County of San Mateo,
24 individually and on behalf of the People of the
25 State of California*

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VIII. JURY DEMAND

Plaintiff San Mateo County demands a jury trial on all issues so triable.

Dated: July 17, 2017

**OFFICE OF THE COUNTY COUNSEL
COUNTY OF SAN MATEO**

By: _____

JOHN C. BEIERS, County Counsel
PAUL A. OKADA, Chief Deputy
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EXHIBIT A

Truth or CO₂ consequences

MAJOR FOSSIL FUEL COMPANIES have known the truth for nearly 50 years: their oil, gas, and coal products create greenhouse gas pollution that warms the planet and changes our climate. They've known for decades that the consequences could be catastrophic and that only a narrow window of time existed to take action before the damage might not be reversible. They have nevertheless engaged in a coordinated, multi-front effort to conceal and contradict their own knowledge of these threats, discredit the growing body of publicly available scientific evidence, and persistently create doubt in the minds of customers, consumers, regulators, the media, journalists, teachers, and the general public about the reality and consequences of climate change.

This timeline highlights information, alleged in the Complaints filed by San Mateo County, Marin County, and Imperial Beach, that comes from key industry documents and other sources. It illustrates what the industry knew, when they knew it, and what they didn't do to prevent the impacts that are now imposing real costs on people and communities around the country. While the early warnings from the industry's own scientists and experts often acknowledged the uncertainties in their projections, those uncertainties were typically about the timing and magnitude of the climate change impacts – not about whether those impacts would occur or whether the industry's oil, gas, and coal were the primary cause. On those latter points, as these documents show, they were quite certain.

| DATE | DOCUMENT | TEXT |
|----------------|---|---|
| NOV. 5, 1965 | <u>"RESTORING THE QUALITY OF OUR ENVIRONMENT," REPORT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION PANEL, PRESIDENT'S SCIENCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE</u> | President Lyndon Johnson's Science Advisory Committee finds that "[P]ollutants have altered on a global scale the carbon dioxide content of the air" and "[M]an is unwittingly conducting a vast geophysical experiment" by burning fossil fuels that are injecting CO ₂ into the atmosphere. The committee concludes that by the year 2000, we could see "measurable and perhaps marked changes in climate, and will almost certainly cause significant changes in the temperature and other properties of the stratosphere." |
| FEB. 1968 | <u>"SOURCES, ABUNDANCE, AND FATE OF GASEOUS ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTANTS," REPORT PREPARED BY STANFORD RESEARCH INSTITUTE SCIENTISTS ELMER ROBINSON AND R.C. ROBBINS FOR THE AMERICAN PETROLEUM INSTITUTE (API)</u> | The American Petroleum Institute commissions a report finding that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "[A]lthough there are other possible sources for the additional CO₂ now being observed in the atmosphere, none seems to fit the presently observed situation as well as the fossil fuel emanation theory." • "Significant temperature changes are almost certain to occur by the year 2000, and these could bring about climatic changes." • "There seems to be no doubt that the potential damage to our environment could be severe." • "What is lacking, however, is an application of these CO₂ data to air pollution technology and work toward systems in which CO₂ emissions would be brought under control." |
| JUNE 6, 1978 | <u>PRESENTATION SHARED WITH EXXON MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE FROM EXXON RESEARCH AND ENGINEERING SCIENCE ADVISOR, JAMES BLACK</u> | Exxon Science Advisor James Black tells the company's Management Committee that "[T]here is general scientific agreement that the most likely manner in which mankind is influencing the global climate is through carbon dioxide release from the burning of fossil fuels" and that "[M]an has a time window of five to ten years before the need for hard decisions regarding changes in energy strategy might become critical." |
| SEPT. 17, 1978 | <u>CONGRESS PASSES NATIONAL CLIMATE POLICY ACT</u> | Congress passes the National Climate Policy Act to help "the Nation and the world to understand and respond to natural and man-induced climate processes and their implications." |

Truth or CO₂ consequences

| DATE | DOCUMENT | TEXT |
|---------------|---|--|
| DEC. 7, 1978 | <u>CO2 RESEARCH PROPOSAL FROM EXXON RESEARCH AND ENGINEERING'S ENVIRONMENTAL AREA MANAGER, HENRY SHAW</u> | Exxon scientist Henry Shaw proposes that the company initiate a comprehensive research program "to assess the possible impact of the greenhouse effect on Exxon business." He argues that the company needs "a credible scientific team that can critically evaluate the information generated on the subject and be able to carry bad news, if any, to the corporation." |
| OCT. 16, 1979 | <u>"CONTROLLING THE CO2 CONCENTRATION IN THE ATMOSPHERE," STUDY BY EXXON EMPLOYEE STEVE KNISELY</u> | An Exxon internal study finds that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "The present trend of fossil fuel consumption will cause dramatic environmental effects before the year 2050." • "[R]ecognizing the uncertainty, there is a possibility that an atmospheric CO2 buildup will cause adverse environmental effects in enough areas of the world to consider limiting the future use of fossil fuels as major energy sources." • "The <u>potential</u> problem is great and urgent." |
| FEB. 29, 1980 | <u>MEETING MINUTES FROM THE AMERICAN PETROLEUM INSTITUTE'S (API'S) CO2 AND CLIMATE TASK FORCE: PRESENTATION BY DR. J. LAURMAN</u> | Dr. J. Laurman tells API's Climate Task Force that "there is a scientific consensus on the potential for large future climatic response to increased CO2 levels" and that "remedial actions will take a long time to become effective." |
| AUG. 6, 1980 | <u>"REVIEW OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION ACTIVITIES FOR 1978-1979," IMPERIAL OIL REPORT</u> | An internal "Review of Environmental Protection Activities for 1978-1979" by Imperial Oil, which was distributed widely to Exxon/Esso Corporate Managers, finds that "[T]echnology exists to remove CO2 from stack gases but removal of only 50% of the CO2 would double the cost of power generation." |
| AUG. 18, 1981 | <u>MEMO FROM ROGER COHEN, DIRECTOR OF EXXON'S THEORETICAL AND MATHEMATICAL SCIENCE LABORATORY, TO SCIENTIST WERNER GLASS</u> | Exxon Strategic Planning Manager Roger Cohen comments on an internal assessment of CO2 emissions and the greenhouse effect that is prepared at the request of Senior VP and Director Morey O'Loughlin: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "[I]t is very likely that we will unambiguously recognize the threat by the year 2000 because of advances in climate modeling and the beginning of real experimental confirmation of the CO2 effect." • "Whereas I can agree with the statement that our best guess is that observable effects in the year 2030 will be 'well short of catastrophic', it is distinctly possible that the [Planning Division's] scenario will later produce effects that will indeed be catastrophic (at least for a substantial fraction of the earth's population)." |
| APRIL 1, 1982 | <u>"CO2 'GREENHOUSE' EFFECT," INTERNALLY DISTRIBUTED SUMMARY BY EXXON MANAGER M.B. GLASER OF A TECHNICAL REVIEW PREPARED BY EXXON RESEARCH AND ENGINEERING COMPANY'S COORDINATION AND PLANNING DIVISION</u> | An internal Exxon "CO2 'Greenhouse Effect' Summary" finds that "[T]here is concern among some scientific groups that once the effects are measurable, they might not be reversible and little could be done to correct the situation in the short term" and that "[M]itigation of the 'greenhouse effect' could require major reductions in fossil fuel combustion." |

Truth or CO₂ consequences

| DATE | DOCUMENT | TEXT |
|---------------|---|--|
| SEPT. 2, 1982 | <u>MEMO FROM ROGER COHEN, DIRECTOR OF EXXON'S THEORETICAL AND MATHEMATICAL SCIENCE LABORATORY, TO EXXON MANAGEMENT INCLUDING PRESIDENT OF EXXON CORPORATION'S RESEARCH AND ENGINEERING, E. E. DAVID JR.</u> | <p>The Director of Exxon's Theoretical and Mathematical Sciences Laboratory, Roger Cohen, summarizes the findings of their research in climate modeling:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "[O]ver the past several years a clear scientific consensus has emerged regarding the expected climatic effects of increased atmospheric CO₂." • "It is generally believed that the first unambiguous CO₂-induced temperature increase will not be observable until around the year 2000." • "[T]he results of our research are in accord with the scientific consensus on the effect of increased atmospheric CO₂ on climate." |
| OCT. 1982 | <u>"INVENTING THE FUTURE: ENERGY AND THE CO₂ 'GREENHOUSE' EFFECT," E. E. DAVID JR. REMARKS AT THE FOURTH ANNUAL EWING SYMPOSIUM, TENAFLY, NJ</u> | <p>In a speech, E. E. David Jr., President of Exxon Research and Engineering Company, states: "It is ironic that the biggest uncertainties about the CO₂ buildup are not in predicting what the climate will do, but in predicting what people will do. . . [It] appears we still have time to generate the wealth and knowledge we will need to invent the transition to a stable energy system."</p> |
| SUMMER 1988 | <u>PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THE GREENHOUSE EFFECT AND EFFORTS TO COMBAT IT RAMP UP</u> | <p>The summer of 1988 sees a flurry of activity around climate change policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. James Hansen, Director of NASA's Goddard Institute for Space Studies, tells Congress that the Institute's greenhouse effect research shows "the global warming is now large enough that we can ascribe with a high degree of confidence a cause and effect relationship with the greenhouse effect." • At least four bipartisan bills are introduced in Congress, three championed by Republicans, to regulate greenhouse gas emissions. |
| AUG. 3, 1988 | <u>"THE GREENHOUSE EFFECT," DRAFT WRITTEN BY JOSEPH M. CARLSON, AN EXXON PUBLIC AFFAIRS MANAGER</u> | <p>Despite declaring the Greenhouse Effect "one of the most significant environmental issues for the 1990s," Carlson writes that Exxon's position should be to "emphasize the uncertainty in scientific conclusions regarding the potential enhanced Greenhouse Effect."</p> |
| AUG. 31, 1988 | <u>VICE PRESIDENT GEORGE H.W. BUSH CAMPAIGN SPEECH IN MICHIGAN</u> | <p>Vice President George H.W. Bush, in a speech while running for President, says "[T]hose who think we are powerless to do anything about the greenhouse effect forget about the 'White House effect'; as President, I intend to do something about it."</p> |
| DEC. 6, 1988 | <u>THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON CLIMATE CHANGE (IPCC) IS FORMED</u> | <p>The IPCC is formed in December 1988 by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to provide policymakers with regular assessments of the scientific basis of climate change, its impacts and future risks, and options for adaptation and mitigation.</p> |
| DEC. 20, 1989 | <u>"GREENHOUSE EFFECT: SHELL ANTICIPATES A SEA CHANGE," ARTICLE IN THE NEW YORK TIMES</u> | <p>A New York Times article reports: "In what is considered the first major project that takes account of the changes the greenhouse effect is expected to bring, [Shell] engineers are designing a huge platform that anticipates rising water in the North Sea by raising the platform from the standard 30 meters - the height now thought necessary to stay above the waves that come in a once-a-century storm - to 31 or 32 meters."</p> |

Truth or CO₂nsequences

| DATE | DOCUMENT | TEXT |
|---------------|---|---|
| 1991 | <u>"CLIMATE OF CONCERN," DOCUMENTARY PRODUCED AND DISTRIBUTED BY SHELL</u> | Shell releases a 30-minute educational video warning of climate change's negative consequences ranging from sea level rise and wetland destruction to "greenhouse refugees." It concludes: <i>"Global warming is not yet certain, but many think that the wait for final proof would be irresponsible. Action now is seen as the only safe insurance."</i> |
| MAY 1991 | <u>INFORMATION COUNCIL FOR THE ENVIRONMENT (ICE) PR CAMPAIGN</u> | The Information Council for the Environment (ICE), formed by the coal industry, launches a national climate change science denial campaign with data collection, full-page newspaper ads, radio commercials, a PR tour, and mailers. |
| DEC. 1995 | <u>"PREDICTING FUTURE CLIMATE CHANGE: A PRIMER," GLOBAL CLIMATE COALITION'S (GCC) INTERNAL PRIMER DRAFT, PREPARED BY GCC'S SCIENCE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE V. THEIR PUBLICLY DISTRIBUTED BACKGROUNDER, "SCIENCE AND GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE: WHAT DO WE KNOW? WHAT ARE THE UNCERTAINTIES?"</u> | The Global Climate Coalition (GCC), a fossil fuel industry group, drafts an internal primer analyzing "contrarian theories" and concluding that they do not "offer convincing arguments against the conventional model of greenhouse gas emission-induced climate change." However, a publicly distributed version excluded this section while focusing on scientific disagreement and uncertainty by citing some of those same contrarian scientists. |
| FALL 1996 | <u>"GLOBAL WARMING: WHO'S RIGHT? FACTS ABOUT A DEBATE THAT'S TURNED UP MORE QUESTIONS THAN ANSWERS," PUBLICATION FROM EXXON CORPORATION</u> | An eight-page Exxon publication questions the negative impact the greenhouse effect might have and plays up the uncertainty. The introductory statement by Lee Raymond, Exxon's chairman and CEO, claims that "[S]cientific evidence remains inconclusive as to whether human activities affect global climate." |
| APRIL 3, 1998 | <u>"GLOBAL SCIENCE COMMUNICATIONS ACTION PLAN," DRAFT BY THE AMERICAN PETROLEUM INSTITUTE (API)</u> | The American Petroleum Institute develops a multi-million dollar communications and outreach plan to ensure that "climate change becomes a non-issue." It maintains that "[V]ictory will be achieved when...uncertainties in climate science [become] part of the 'conventional wisdom.'" |
| DEC. 11, 2000 | <u>LETTER FROM LLOYD KEIGWIN, SENIOR SCIENTIST AT THE WOODS HOLE OCEANOGRAPHIC INSTITUTION, TO PETER ALTMAN, NATIONAL CAMPAIGN COORDINATOR FOR EXXONMOBIL</u> | A senior scientist at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, Lloyd Keigwin, sends a letter to Exxon's Peter Altman, summarizing their email and phone conversations regarding Exxon's misleading use of Keigwin's study results. <i>"The sad thing is that a company with the resources of ExxonMobil is exploiting the data for political purposes when they could actually get much better press by supporting research into the role of the ocean in climate change."</i> |
| JUNE 20, 2001 | <u>"YOUR MEETING WITH MEMBERS OF THE GLOBAL CLIMATE COALITION," US DEPARTMENT OF STATE MEMO AND TALKING POINTS</u> | Talking points for State Department Undersecretary Paula Dobriansky's meeting with the Global Climate Coalition at API's headquarters: "POTUS rejected Kyoto, in part, based on input from you." |

Truth or CO₂ consequences

| DATE | DOCUMENT | TEXT |
|----------------|--|---|
| SEPT. 26, 2002 | <u>LETTER FROM MICHAEL MACCRACKEN, RETIRING SENIOR SCIENTIST FROM THE OFFICE OF THE US GLOBAL CHANGE RESEARCH PROGRAM, TO EXXON CEO LEE RAYMOND: "RE: WITH REGARD TO THE EXXONMOBIL FACSIMILE ON FEBRUARY 6, 2001 FROM DR. AG RANDOL TO MR. JOHN HOWARD OF THE COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY"</u> | Michael MacCracken, the former director of the National Assessment Coordination Office of the US Global Change Research Program, writes to Exxon CEO Lee Raymond in response to ExxonMobil's criticism of a US climate change assessment: <i>"In my earlier experience, arguing for study of adaptation had been a position of industry, but now when this was attempted, ExxonMobil argued this was premature. Roughly, this is equivalent to turning your back on the future and putting your head in the sand—with this position, it is no wonder ExxonMobil is the target of environmental and shareholder critics...Certainly, there are uncertainties, but decisions are made under uncertainty all the time--that is what executives are well paid to do. In this case, ExxonMobil is on the wrong side of the international scientific community, the wrong side of the findings of all the world's leading academies of science, and the wrong side of virtually all of the world's countries as expressed, without dissent, in the IPCC reports...To call ExxonMobil's position out of the mainstream is thus a gross understatement. There can be all kinds of perspectives about what one might or might not do to start to limit the extent of the change, but to be in opposition to the key scientific findings is rather appalling for such an established and scientific organization."</i> |
| OCT. 21, 2002 | <u>MARKUPS BY PHILIP COONEY, CHIEF OF STAFF FOR THE WHITE HOUSE COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY, ON A DRAFT STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE CLIMATE CHANGE SCIENCE PROGRAM</u> | Philip Cooney, Chief of Staff for the White House Council of Environmental Quality and a former lawyer and lobbyist for the American Petroleum Institute with no scientific credentials, edits a Draft Strategic Plan for the US Climate Change Science Program to introduce uncertainty about global warming and its impacts. In 2005, Cooney resigns after being accused of doctoring scientific reports and is hired by Exxon. A Union of Concerned Scientists report published samples of Cooney's edits (p.56). |
| JUNE 11, 2009 | <u>"THE PROPORTIONALITY OF GLOBAL WARMING TO CUMULATIVE CARBON EMISSIONS," PUBLICATION BY DAMON MATTHEWS PUBLISHED IN NATURE</u> | Damon Matthews publishes seminal research in the peer-reviewed Nature journal showing a linear relationship between greenhouse gas emissions and increasing global temperatures. |
| AUG. 12, 2009 | <u>EMAIL FROM API CEO JACK GERARD TO API'S MEMBERSHIP REGARDING A SERIES OF "ENERGY CITIZEN" RALLIES IN 20 STATES DURING THE END OF THE CONGRESSIONAL RECESS</u> | The American Petroleum Institute's CEO, Jack Gerard, emails API's membership promising "up front resources" and encouraging turnout for "Energy Citizen" rallies in about 20 states. Gerard says they are "collaborating closely with the allied oil and natural gas associations" in order to "aim a loud message at those states' U.S. Senators to avoid the mistakes embodied in the House climate bill." |
| NOV. 22, 2013 | <u>"TRACING ANTHROPOGENIC CARBON DIOXIDE AND METHANE EMISSIONS TO FOSSIL FUEL AND CEMENT PRODUCERS, 1854-2010," PUBLICATION BY RICK HEEDE PUBLISHED IN CLIMATIC CHANGE</u> | Rick Heede, co-founder and director of the Climate Accountability Institute, authors a peer-reviewed study revealing that 90 producers of oil, natural gas, coal, and cement – the "carbon majors" – are responsible for 63 percent of cumulative industrial CO ₂ and methane emissions worldwide between 1751 and 2010. Just 28 companies are responsible for 25 percent of all emissions since 1965. |

Truth or CO₂ consequences

| DATE | DOCUMENT ¹ | TEXT |
|---------------|---|--|
| NOV. 11, 2014 | <u>"WSPA PRIORITY ISSUES," PRESENTATION BY WESTERN STATES PETROLEUM ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT CATHERINE REHEIS- BOYD</u> | The Western States Petroleum Association, a top lobbying and trade association for the oil industry, describes in a presentation the <i>"campaigns and coalitions [it has] activated that have contributed to WSPA's advocacy goals and continue to respond to aggressive anti-oil initiatives in the West,"</i> including investment <i>"in several coalitions that are best suited to drive consumer and grassroots messages to regulators and policymakers."</i> |
| SEPT. 2016 | <u>"2016 CITY OF IMPERIAL BEACH SEA LEVEL RISE ASSESSMENT"</u> | The City of Imperial Beach, California, releases a report that assesses the city's vulnerability to sea level rise and identifies adaptation strategies, along with estimated costs, to address those impacts. |
| APRIL 2017 | STATE OF CALIFORNIA, MARIN COUNTY, AND SAN MATEO COUNTY SEA LEVEL RISE ASSESSMENT REPORTS | The State of California, along with San Mateo and Marin Counties, release separate reports that assess the impacts of sea level rise on their communities, detailing the substantial monetary losses, infrastructure and property damage, and decrease in quality of life residents will face. |
| JUNE 26, 2017 | <u>"THE INCREASING RATE OF GLOBAL MEAN SEA-LEVEL RISE DURING 1993-2014," CHEN, ET.AL., PUBLISHED IN NATURE CLIMATE CHANGE</u> | A new peer-reviewed study confirms that the rate of sea level rise is accelerating and concludes that, for coastal communities, it <i>"highlights the importance and urgency of mitigating climate change and formulating coastal adaptation plans to mitigate the impacts of ongoing sea level rise."</i> |