

**Exxon Mobil Shareholder Meeting Statement**  
**David Ridenour, President**  
**The National Center for Public Policy Research**  
**May 29, 2013**

I'm David Ridenour, representing the National Center for Public Policy Research, a conservative, free-market think-tank, and a shareholder. I'm commenting on Item 7, the United Steelworkers' Proposal for a "report on lobbying." We agree with management and urge a vote against.

We note first that the proposal would require an extraordinary level of detail in company lobbying disclosures – more detail than any other company we can think of, let alone a company that is subject to as much vituperation as this one continuously is.

Second, we note in particular section 3 of the proposal, which states that the company must disclose its "membership in and payments to any tax-exempt organization that writes and endorses model legislation."

We hope our fellow shareholders are aware that this is a barely-veiled attempt to make it difficult for the company to work with one organization in particular, the American Legislative Exchange Council, better known as ALEC, a 40-year-old non-partisan, non-profit organization that facilitates collaboration on issues important to all of us among thousands of state legislators in all 50 states.

ALEC helps state legislators share with one another good ideas that work in the areas of health care reform, prison reform, criminal justice, public safety, education, government transparency, job creation, and, yes, energy policy.

Yet because ALEC shares good ideas in these important policy areas from a perspective that seeks to keep government small and accountable to the people, and our personal and corporate taxes low, special interests that over time have come to dominate sectors of our government find ALEC threatening. These special interests need big government to enact their agendas and, not infrequently, fill their coffers and reward their allies. As such, ALEC is a threat to their agendas, and in an effort to eliminate it they have attempted to intimidate as many companies as possible that work with ALEC in any way into dropping all associations with that group.

Unfortunately, many corporations have surrendered to this pressure, which often is based on smears and even lies, but, as far as we know, this company is not one of them. We wish to commend the company's management in this regard for not surrendering, and for standing up for what not only is this company's best interest, but, quite literally, the best interests of the United States.

We do not agree with the company on every issue, but we certainly do on this one. We believe Item 7, the proposal from the United Steelworkers for a report on lobbying, is part of this harmful anti-ALEC agenda, and we urge our fellow shareholders to stand up for liberty, lower taxes, government accountability and the free market and vote NO on Item 7.

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