

Impact and Justice

MAY 2021



Historic Climate Initiative Nears Vote at Exxon

With a vote just days away, CBIS is busy rallying support for our historic shareholder resolution at ExxonMobil. Our proposal, the first of its kind, presses Exxon to approach the energy transition with greater urgency. The oil and gas giant remains an industry laggard on climate issues, and CBIS is seeking to nudge them closer to peers in planning for a low-carbon future.

Building on Our Win Before the SEC

As we shared previously, the U.S. Securities & Exchange Commission rejected Exxon's attempt to keep our proposal off the annual meeting proxy ballot. CBIS Chief Investment Officer John Geissinger will attend the virtual meeting to address Exxon's board and management, as well as fellow shareholders.

In the meantime, CBIS is working on behalf of our investors to garner support by:

- Urging our sub-advisers and mainstream investors to rally behind the proposal, which has been publicly backed by Climate Action 100+, a \$54 trillion coalition
- Filing a proxy exempt solicitation at the SEC—a statement making the case for our resolution to Exxon shareholders

Fast Facts on Our Exxon Proposal

WHAT IS CBIS SEEKING?

Our proposal seeks an audited report assessing how global efforts to reduce carbon emissions will affect Exxon financially.

WHY DOES IT MATTER?

CBIS believes Exxon can help lead the transition to a low-carbon economy, but first must evaluate the business impacts of climate change.

WHEN IS THE VOTE?

May 26, 2021

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

If you own Exxon stock through another asset manager, ask them to vote your shares in support of our resolution (Item 6 – Report on Scenario Analysis).

[Read the resolution >](#)



Continued >

- Contacting proxy firms that advise investors on voting their shares, explaining why they should recommend clients back CBIS

Taking the First Steps in Our “Journey”

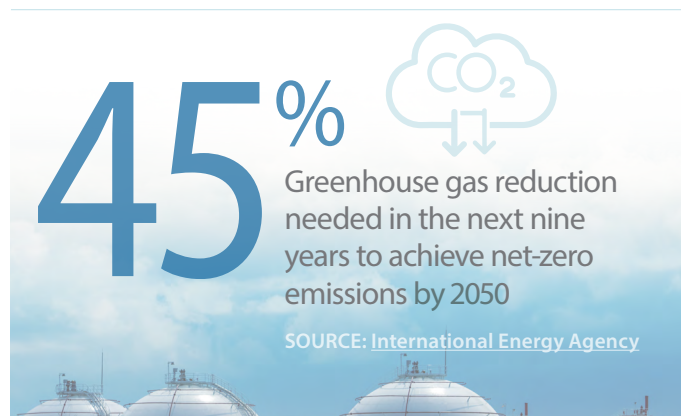
Our climate work at Exxon is part of our updated approach to fossil fuel investment, aligned with guidance the Vatican issued last year in *Journeying Towards Care for Our Common Home*. In 2021, CBIS has divested from 16 carbon-intensive companies that we believe are not well positioned to make the shift to a low-carbon economy.

In contrast, we feel Exxon and other oil and gas majors—with their infrastructure and expertise—can help drive change as the world shifts to cleaner energy sources. But first, Exxon must move on from its current business-as-usual approach.

CBIS PROXY EXEMPT SOLICITATION

“It seems increasingly implausible that Exxon could maintain current strategies and objectives, when the majority of large players in its industry, and the largest emitting countries in the world, are headed down a stringent GHG emitting path.”

[READ THE STATEMENT >](#)



HUMAN DIGNITY

Tech Leaders Make Strides on Child Safety

CBIS is encouraged by progress at two companies we’ve worked with closely in our campaign to persuade tech and telecom companies to do more to protect children from online exploitation. First and foremost, AT&T has made tremendous strides since we first engaged the company on this issue.

Our initial inquiry to AT&T in 2018 met with lackluster response. Undeterred, CBIS began speaking to company leaders around the world, urging them to step up efforts to identify and disrupt child sexual abuse material on AT&T platforms. These conversations ultimately

yielded an agreement between AT&T and CBIS, with the telecom titan pledging a more aggressive approach and our firm withdrawing a shareholder resolution.











AT&T reported back to CBIS on its child protection efforts, informing us of a long list of laudable initiatives including:

- Completing the second annual Digital Family Poll on teens’ technology use and parental perceptions of their experiences
- Benchmarking parental control tools offered across products and services company-wide

[Continued >](#)

Active Ownership Successes in 1Q

Through our holistic approach to active ownership, CBIS engages dozens of portfolio companies throughout the year to drive change in alignment with Catholic social teaching. Some initiatives focus on a particular company, while others address issues of concern on an industry-wide basis.

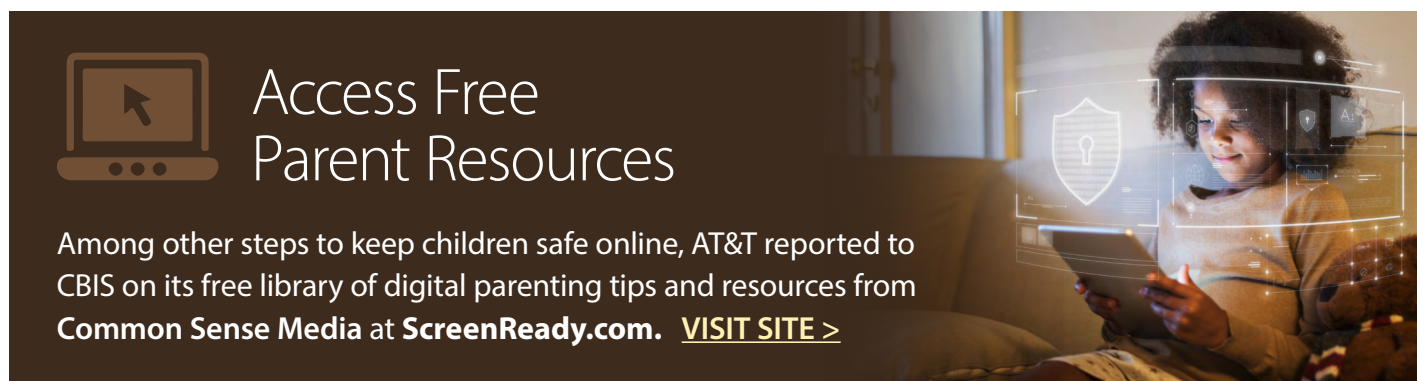
COMPANY/ISSUE	1Q ACTIVITY	ECONOMIC JUSTICE	CARE FOR CREATION	HUMAN DIGNITY
China National Offshore Oil Corp. Ltd.	<p>CBIS is pleased with successes achieved by our investor coalition to date including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Launch and growth of low-carbon and renewables division ▪ Significant improvements to climate and sustainability disclosures ▪ Establishment of targets for reducing Scope 1 and 2 emissions 			
Domino's Pizza	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Committed to setting reduction targets for greenhouse gas emissions and regularly reporting on progress following meeting with CBIS and other Ceres Investor Network members 			
Kellogg's	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Met with leadership as part of engagement led by Trinity Health to discuss new commitments on reducing use of controversial herbicide glyphosate 			
Improving Meat Company Working Conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Pressed seven large global meat companies to implement new protections for vulnerable workers: <i>BRF, Cranswick, JBS USA, Marfrig, Sanderson Farms, Tyson Foods, WH Group</i> ▪ Campaign led by Farm Animal Investment Risk and Return (FAIRR), an investor alliance including CBIS 			
Promoting Biodiversity & Sustainable Farming	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Called on 12 major grocers and retailers to reduce use of toxic pesticides and help farmers transition rapidly to sustainable agricultural strategies: <i>Ahold Delhaize, Amazon/Whole Foods, BJ's Wholesale, Costco, CVS, Dollar General, Dollar Tree, Kroger, Rite Aid, Target, Walgreens, Walmart</i> ▪ Campaign led by Mercy Investments 			
Addressing Uyghur Humanitarian Crisis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reiterated plea for apparel companies <i>Hermès, Hugo Boss, Inditex, Kering and Fast Retailing</i> to sever ties with China's Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region (XUAR) over government's persecution of ethnic Muslims, following inadequate responses to initial outreach 			
Protecting Indigenous People's Rights & Biodiversity in Alaska	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Called on U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Congress to permanently protect Bristol Bay against large-scale mining, as part of \$105 billion investor coalition 			

- Ramping up in-store customer tutorials on using parental controls and other digital safety tips

Facebook still has a long way to go to uphold its responsibilities as an industry leader, but announced some promising developments—including a new corporate human rights policy. When CBIS met with executives in 1Q, they shared a series of initiatives targeting abusive

imagery including:

- Making it easier for users to report content for violating child exploitation policies
- Developing new tools aimed at users searching for, or sharing, exploitative images
- Issuing a new safety alert to people who share child exploitative content (in addition to removing it and contacting authorities)




Access Free Parent Resources

Among other steps to keep children safe online, AT&T reported to CBIS on its free library of digital parenting tips and resources from **Common Sense Media at [ScreenReady.com](#)**. [VISIT SITE >](#)


Contact Us

We want to hear from you! If you have questions or want more information on any of our engagements, please reach out to our Catholic Responsible InvestmentsSM team at:


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