WE DEMAND FOSSIL FREE POLITICS

Dear decision-makers,

We are facing a climate emergency, created by the fossil fuel industry. We demand fossil free politics.

Communities are already feeling the impacts of climate chaos, with record storms, droughts, and fires – hitting the global South especially hard. Our right to life, health, food, and an adequate standard of living is at risk, while a privileged few live a life of luxury.

More than two-thirds of man-made greenhouse gas emissions come from one single source: the fossil fuel industry. To prevent global climate breakdown, the vast majority of these companies’ reserves of gas, oil and coal must stay in the ground. We need large-scale and urgent action to shut down fossil fuels and transition to 100% renewable energy, putting workers and communities first.

The fossil fuel industry is one of the most lucrative sectors in history – with Shell, BP, and ExxonMobil alone pocketing nearly $55 billion in 2018.

The industry has for decades polluted our politics to protect its profits. Fossil fuel companies have relentlessly tried to deny science, and delay, weaken, and sabotage climate action – despite knowing their business heats the planet and destroys communities all along the supply chain. Their business model is killing our present and our future.

The world’s governments pledged in the Paris Climate Agreement to keep global heating below 1.5 degrees. But since it was signed, the big five fossil fuel corporations - Shell, BP, ExxonMobil, Total, and Chevron - have spent $1 billion on lobbying and advertising undermining this goal.

These corporate lobbying tactics have been devastatingly effective: the EU and European governments are continuing to set inadequate emission limits and renewable energy targets, still encouraging us to consume fossil fuels, still subsidising new gas pipelines and coal plants, and are still promoting false solutions.

This stops now. Millions of young people have taken to the streets, joining forces with others across the world to demand climate justice and a fossil free future. We can no longer allow the fossil fuel industry to be involved in democratic decision-making to halt climate chaos, fix our energy system, and protect people and planet.

The only way forward is to ensure that climate and energy policy is conducted entirely in the public interest. Similar to existing restrictions on tobacco industry lobbyists, we need a firewall that protects our democratic institutions and our decision-making from fossil fuel industry interference: no more private lobby meetings, partnerships, or collaboration.

We need fossil free politics – before it’s too late.

We call on our political institutions to champion fossil free politics:

1) Institute a firewall to end fossil fuel industry access to decision-making: no lobby meetings; no seats in expert and advisory bodies; no role in governmental research bodies.

2) Avoid conflicts of interest of decision makers: no revolving door between public office and the fossil fuel industry; no industry side jobs or placements; no hiring of industry consultants.

3) End preferential treatment of the fossil fuel industry: no involvement in climate negotiations; no place on government delegations to international negotiations or trade missions; no more subsidies or incentives for fossil fuel related activities.

4) Reject partnerships with the fossil fuel industry: no sponsorships or partnerships; no sharing platforms with industry representatives; no hosting or attending of industry events; no party or candidate donations.

Signed:

Corporate Europe Observatory  food & water europe  Friends of the Earth Europe  Greenpeace  Corporate Accountability  350.org  [3AS]TIVISTS  Global Witness  ATEL EU
Action Group "Haende weg von Schwedeneck"
ActionAid Netherlands
Alianza por la Solidaridad/Action Aid España
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ASOCIACIÓN ACIMA
Associació del punt de interacció de collserola (can masdeu)
BUND - Friends of the Earth Germany
CAGNE
Collect Causse Méjean - Gaz de Schiste NON!
Collectif Florac Stop Gaz de Schiste
Consejo de Investigaciones en Desarrollo
COORDINADORA DE PUEBLOS y ORGANIZACIONES DEL ORIENTE DEL ESTADO DE MÉXICO EN DEFENSA DE LA TIERRA, EL AGUA y SU CULTURA
European Civic Forum
Fracking Free Bulgaria Coalition
Fracking Free Clare
Franciscan Sisters of the Atonement
FRESH EYES PEOPLE TO PEOPLE TRAVEL CIC
Friends of the Earth Ireland
Futureproof Clare
Greenpeace Austria
IGEMIN
International Climate Safe Travel Institute
JAJustica Ambiental/FOEMozambique
Jamaa Resource Initiatives
Labor für Kunst und nachhaltige Bildung
LANDROSA
Movement for Advancing Understanding on Sustainability And Mutuality (MAUSAM)
Movimiento Ciudadano frente al Cambio Climático - MOCICC
NaturFreunde Deutschlands
Nodo Cantabria Plataforma por un Nuevo Modelo Energético
North American Climate, Conservation and Environment(NACCE)
Notre Affaire à Tous
Plymouth Climate Council
Rapid Transition Alliance
REK Rowlands & Partners
ROZRUCH
Sayitloud
SchipholWatch
SERACOB
Stop the Algonquin Pipeline Expansion (SAPE)
The Banner
Topanga Peace Alliance; MLK Coalition of Greater Los Angeles
UDAPT
urgewald
White Rabbit Grove RDNA
WILOO
Women with Energy
Xun Biosphere Project