Shareholder Resolution at the 2021 AGM of ConocoPhillips (“the company”)  

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Shareholder Resolution

WHEREAS: In the coming decades, the world will reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to curb climate change. Companies that fail to reduce overall emissions will incur substantial financial risks, especially fossil fuel companies.

RESOLVED: Shareholders request the company to address the risks and opportunities presented by the global transition towards a lower emissions energy system by setting emission reduction targets covering the greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions of the company’s operations as well as their energy products (Scope 1, 2, and 3).

Supporting Statement

As responsible shareholders we perceive the increasing business risks to companies in the fossil fuel exploration and production sector. Fossil fuel companies are increasingly subject to GHG emission regulations, face climate change litigation, and encounter new competitors in the energy transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy. Meanwhile, the energy transition also provides great opportunities. Companies that are willing and able to engage in innovations and reforms are likely to survive and thrive.

We, the shareholders, therefore support ConocoPhillips in setting emissions reduction targets for all emissions (Scope 1, 2, and 3), the most simple and least prescriptive way to address these risks and opportunities.

The global political pledge to curb climate change, the resulting future regulations for the fossil fuel industry to reduce their overall emissions, and the decreasing costs of renewable energy add to the risk that capital expenditures in fossil fuel projects will become stranded assets. Furthermore, fossil fuel companies are increasingly sued for their role in the climate crisis: not only for their Scope 1 and 2 emissions but also for their Scope 3 emissions.

Reducing absolute emissions from the use of energy products (Scope 3) is essential to achieving the goal of the Paris Climate Agreement to limit global warming to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels, to aim for a global net-zero-emission energy system, and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C.

Backing from investors that insist on Paris-consistent targets for all emissions (Scope 1, 2, and 3) continues to gain momentum; in Europe, in 2020, an unprecedented number of shareholders voted for climate targets resolutions.
The company’s financial results currently greatly depend on the price of oil. Diversification in renewable energy is an increasingly viable opportunity to decrease risks.

Taking the above points into consideration, we encourage you to set targets that are inspirational for society, employees, shareholders, and the energy sector, allowing the company to meet an increasing demand for energy while reducing GHG emissions to levels consistent with the global intergovernmental consensus specified by the Paris Climate Agreement.

You have our support.