

**TURTLE ISLAND RESTORATION NETWORK • EARTH DAY NETWORK • COUNTERCORP •  
RIPPLE EFFECT COMMUNITY ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT • GREENPEACE USA •  
PACIFIC ENVIRONMENT • WILDERNESS SOCIETY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA •  
FRIENDS OF THE EARTH U. S. AND AUSTRALIA • SNORKEL BOB FOUNDATION •  
CENTRE FOR CIVIL SOCIETY ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE PROJECT**

January 11, 2010

Mr. John S. Watson  
Incoming Chairman and Chief Executive Officer  
Chevron Corporation  
6001 Bollinger Canyon Road  
San Ramon, CA 94583, USA

Re: Change course in Northwest Australia and the Kimberley

Dear Mr. Watson,

On behalf of Turtle Island Restoration Network, Earth Day Network, CounterCorp, Ripple Effect Community Enterprise Development, Greenpeace USA, Pacific Environment, Wilderness Society of Western Australia, Friends of the Earth U. S. and Australia, Snorkel Bob Foundation, Centre for Civil Society Environmental Justice Project and our thousands of members and supporters around the world, we write you in support of the international coalition seeking your leadership to reform Chevron's approach to the protection of people's health and the environment. We urge you to immediately tackle the oil company's responsibilities to clean up and modernize the Richmond refinery in your back yard, eradicate the oil spills and pollution left behind in Ecuador, and address the human and ecological problems created by Chevron operations in Burma, Canada, Ecuador, Iraq, Kazakh, Nigeria, the Philippines and elsewhere around the globe.

Our organizations would also like to take this opportunity to direct your attention to the environmental risks that Chevron is initiating along the remote Northwest coast of Australia on Barrow Island and in the Kimberley. This little-known corner of the world contains some of the wildest and least disturbed expanses of ocean and stretches of coastline anywhere. Endangered sea turtles and humpback whales rely on this region for breeding, feeding and migrations. The ancient lands are inhabited by Aboriginal Australians as well as westerners who whose livelihoods and health are threatened by Chevron's plans to industrialize the region in partnership with other large oil companies and the state and federal government.

We urge you to immediately put on hold the environmentally unsound, unpopular and short-sighted Gorgon project at Barrow Island due primarily to the destruction of nesting beaches for rare Australian flatback sea turtles and the reliance on unproven carbon dioxide sequestration technology. This project was rejected by Western Australia's Environmental Protection Agency for these same reasons. Press releases and media coverage saying that the EPA had approved this project failed to take note of the actual language in the most recent environmental documents that clearly re-iterate opposition due to environmental degradation. Ground was broken on the Gorgon project last month, but it is not too late to seek other locations for processing natural gas from the northwest shelf – as has been recommended by many stakeholders over the past decade.

We also urge you to immediately abandon plans to support the oil company joint venture to place a new LNG processing plant along the Kimberley coast and specifically at James Price Point. Scientists have documented this area as a critical breeding and calving area for humpback whales as well as providing endangered sea turtle habitat. International opposition to industrializing the Kimberley is gaining steam,

and we and our allies are supporting and expanding on Australia-based opposition to the project by alerting our members, allied U. S. and Australian groups, the international conservation community and the public to this pending environmental and human travesty.

Unlike in Richmond, Calif., and Ecuador where much damage has already been done, Chevron has the opportunity to avoid creating new and long-term environmental and community problems by putting the brakes on its fossil fuel initiatives in the northwest of Australia. Doing so would demonstrate your commitment to corporate responsibility to the benefit of Chevron's shareholders and to the world. TIRN hopes that you will consider taking action by halting these projects and putting people and the planet ahead of short-term corporate profits.

As Turtle Island Restoration Network and several partners are based in the San Francisco Bay Area, we would be eager to meet with you in person so that we may brief you on our concerns about Chevron's operations in the northwest shelf of Australia.

Sincerely yours,



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