



The Office Of State Treasurer
Denise L. Nappier

News

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98 PERCENT OF SHAREHOLDERS SUPPORT CLIMATE CHANGE RESOLUTION OFFERED BY CONNECTICUT RETIREMENT PLANS AND TRUST FUNDS (CRPTF) AND INVESTOR GROUP AT BP ANNUAL MEETING

HARTFORD, CT -- State Treasurer Denise L. Nappier today announced that a shareholder resolution on climate change filed by the Connecticut Retirement Plans and Trust Funds (CRPTF) and a coalition of institutional investors received the support of over 98 percent of votes cast at BP's annual meeting in London.

The resolution, which BP management endorsed, calls on the company to address five climate change-related issues, including reporting on its ongoing operational emissions management and preparing an analysis of how the International Energy Agency's low-carbon scenarios will affect the company's assets. The resolution also directs BP to describe the public policy positions it takes related to climate change and explain executive incentives.

"BP took a leap in the right direction by supporting the shareholders' resolution. Climate change impacts a company's bottom line, and investors must have information to evaluate how a company addresses the risks and opportunities related to this challenge," said Treasurer Nappier.

"I look forward to BP serving as an example for other companies to make similar disclosures, for which I will advocate," Treasurer Nappier added.

The annual meeting was held on April 16. The primary filer of the resolution was Great Britain's Aiming for A investor coalition; the CRPTF was one of 100 co-filers.

Besides endorsing the resolution, BP was likewise responsive to investors' request that it clarify its position on climate change when it announced, at a March 20 webinar with investors, that it was disassociating itself from ALEC. The organization has lobbied to repeal state mandates for renewable energy and has been associated with statements denying the existence of climate change.

As of April 22, the CRPTF owned 6,668,123 shares of BP, formerly known as British Petroleum, with a market value of \$56.3 million.

The BP shareholder resolution, filed in January 2015, is one of a series of environmental initiatives that the Connecticut Treasurer's Office has launched or been involved with in recent years. Through the

Investor Network on Climate Risk (“INCR”), an organization whose formation Treasurer Nappier spearheaded, the Treasurer’s Office partners with a broad spectrum of institutional investors with approximately \$4 trillion of assets under management that engage companies to promote performance sustainability in light of risks posed by climate change.

In 2003, Treasurer Nappier was a convener of the first Investor Summit on Climate Risk, held at the United Nations in New York City, which led to the founding of the INCR. In 2005, the Office, in conjunction with the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, sponsored the first-ever summit for the insurance industry on climate change.

Over the past decade, the CRPTF has filed shareholder resolutions on climate risk at more than 20 companies. These efforts have led to increased company awareness of climate related risks and a greater willingness to monitor and report activities. In the 2014 proxy season, FirstEnergy, an Ohio-based energy producer, agreed to produce a comprehensive report on the company’s plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and Peabody Energy, a Missouri-based coal company, agreed to produce a report regarding fossil fuels and their impact on climate change.

BP is the second large fossil fuel company this proxy season to support a shareholder resolution to report climate change risks. In February, Royal Dutch Shell agreed to do so and is asking investors to vote for the resolution at its May 2015 annual meeting.

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