

February 25, 2010

Mr. John Watson  
Chairman & CEO  
Chevron Corporation  
6001 Bollinger Canyon Road  
San Ramon, CA 94583  
United States

Dear Mr. Watson:

Warm greetings from the Ecuadorian Amazon. It has come to our attention that you are the new CEO of Chevron, a company that for us, means pain and profound suffering. Chevron has affected our lives for almost half a century, and is still affecting us until this day.

When your company purchased Texaco, you inherited a social, cultural and environmental disaster that is affecting thousands of women, men and children. Many members of our families have died – husbands, wives, children, parents, cousins, grandparents – because of illnesses like cancer from drinking and bathing in water contaminated with oil; oil that Texaco dumped in our rivers, roads and our land. We witnessed our rivers turned black with oil, walked on roads covered with crude, smelled and drank water that appeared transparent but smelled like chemicals. Now dozens of families still live near the toxic pits that Texaco did not remediate properly in our territory. We have lost land, animals and forests full of biodiversity and traditional medicine.

Everything we are saying is the truth, because we witnessed it. We suffered it and it is still there and will be there for many more years while Chevron keeps denying its responsibility for this disaster or keeps blaming Petroecuador or blaming us. We are not looking for “two juicy checks” like your lawyers here in Ecuador say we are, and we are not looking for money for personal benefit. What we want is a collective benefit, simple and fair: a remediation of our territory and land, clean water, potable and free of contamination, support to improve the health of thousands of affected people and the recovery of our culture as indigenous nationalities.

Mr. Watson: we are human beings, like you. We have families, children, dreams, worries, and we are only looking for a decent life for the affected families. Every day there are more people around the world joining our cause, and our reasonable plea for justice. We hope you have a new attitude as CEO of Chevron, and we also hope that you are a person with ethics and principles that respect human life and nature.

We understand that you live on a street called “Happy Street.” We are writing to you from the Ecuadorian Amazon to tell you that we hope that one day you come to see for your self the reality that your company left behind, to listen to the affected communities and take action to resolve it. You have the power and the opportunity to do something historic – correct an error that could save the lives of thousands of people and help restore a unique ecosystem, not only for us but for future generations.

Mr. Watson: we need to live.

Signed:

Emergildo Criollo  
Representative, Cofan Nation

Ernesto Maniguaje  
President, Siona Nation

Humberto Piaguaje  
Representative, Secoya Nation

Ermel Chávez  
President, Amazon Defense Coalition