

October 28, 2005



David J. O'Reilly
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer
Chevron Corp.
6001 Bollinger Canyon Rd.
San Ramon, CA 94583

Dear Mr. O'Reilly,

It is with genuine regret that I write this letter. Three years ago, when we began asking Chevron to put its core values to the test and take responsibility for the company's toxic legacy in Ecuador, we anticipated that it would only be a matter of time before you developed a timely and effective clean-up and compensation plan. After all, concerned citizens, consumers, employees, shareholders and affected communities should expect nothing less from a company that prides itself on conducting business in a "socially responsible and ethical manner"¹.

Unfortunately, Chevron has done everything but take responsibility for its mistakes; instead of funding clean-up efforts and compensating affected local people in the Ecuadorian Amazon, you have invested in an expensive public relations campaign to spin your cover-up message, leaving entire villages and vulnerable ecosystems to pay the price.

According to your company's values, Chevron claims to "respect the law, support universal human rights, protect the environment, and benefit the communities" where you work². Mr. O'Reilly, these are values that we share, and Amazon Watch remains hopeful that Chevron will soon walk its talk. By accepting responsibility for the contamination your company has left behind in Ecuador, and by creating a timely and effective plan to clean up your toxic waste sites and compensate local communities whose lives have been devastated by the contamination, Chevron could assume a new leadership role in the oil and gas industry. Right now, your company is faced with a critical choice: Chevron can either continue to deny its responsibility in Ecuador and receive increased negative publicity and investor and consumer pressure, or it can make amends with the affected communities and take credit for setting a precedent for corporate responsibility abroad.

Amazon Watch would like nothing more than to see your company do the right thing in Ecuador. However, in the meantime, men, women and children in the affected region continue to suffer serious health problems because the waterways, rivers and streams they depend upon for survival are still grossly polluted by your company's leftover toxic waste. Fragile ecosystems devastated by your company's contamination cannot begin to heal. As you may know, even Chevron's own expert-collected data has shown that remediation efforts approved by the Ecuadorian Government did not adequately clean up the polluted area. For example, 102 of the 104 water samples reported to the Ecuadorian court from 18 inspected sites (14 of which were supposedly remediated by your company) show levels of contamination in violation of Ecuadorian law.

¹ As stated in "The Chevron Way."

² Ibid.



Therefore, until we see a response appropriate to the scale of the problem, Amazon Watch will continue to live out *our* values by stepping up our education efforts and targeting your company's customers, employees, shareholders and community in San Ramon, CA. We will also be meeting with local, state and national policymakers regarding our concerns.

Mr. O'Reilly, your company reported record profits today, which financially position Chevron to do the right and responsible thing in Ecuador. And if doing the right thing is not enough by itself, we strongly believe that your hardworking employees and concerned investors would be proud to be part of a company that *truly* lives the values it preaches—not just in word, but also in deed.

Our enduring hope is that people who seem to be in opposition will one day learn to come together, especially regarding the protection of the environment and human rights. We believe Chevron can do better. Our door at Amazon Watch is always open. Mr. O'Reilly, will you join us to seek a solution for the disaster in Ecuador?

Sincerely,

Atossa Soltani
Executive Director