FOSSIL FREE DARTMOUTH

INVESTIGATING IRVING

A Report by **Fossil Free Dartmouth**

THE ISSUE

Even as the world grows dangerously close to climate tipping points, many fossil fuel companies continue to **engage in climate misinformation and greenwashing tactics**. By accepting money from the fossil fuel industry, universities uphold the industry's reputation and delay critical climate action.

In 2016, Dartmouth's Arthur L. Irving Institute for Energy and Society was established with a lead gift of $80 million from Irving Oil, Arthur L. Irving Family Foundation, and Irving family members.

One-third of the Irving Institute's Advisory Board work directly in the fossil fuel industry or in financial institutions or law firms that are leading investors and representatives for the fossil fuel industry.

COMPANIES REPRESENTED ON THE ADVISORY BOARD INCLUDE:

IRVING
Owns Canada's largest oil refinery

Has actively manipulated climate science
ExxonMobil

ADNOC
World's 12th largest oil company by production

Largest bank investor in fossil fuels since Paris Agreement
J.P.Morgan

Linklaters
Extensive transactional work for the fossil fuel industry

IMPLICATIONS OF FOSSIL FUEL FUNDING

While the report's interviewees shared positive feedback about the Irving Institute's programs, many also raised concerns about the Institute's association with fossil fuel companies.

GREENWASHING

Irving Oil uses the Institute to falsely represent itself as advancing the energy transition. In reality, the company has backtracked on its climate goals and lobbied *against* clean energy legislation.

ALIENATES KEY STAKEHOLDERS

Some faculty and students passionate about climate solutions are not willing to engage with the Institute due to its affiliation with fossil fuel companies.

UNDERMINES ACADEMIC CREDIBILITY

The Irving name constitutes a conflict of interest, causing the public to question the academic independence of Irving-funded research and programs.

SPONSORSHIP BIAS

Fossil fuel funding can skew research agendas to support the industry's interests. While Dartmouth faculty largely said they have independence in Irving-funded research, the College must account for this risk in future decisions.

Full report via fossilfreedartmouth.com

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FOSSIL FUEL DISSOCIATION CAMPAIGNS

Princeton University

In September 2022, Princeton dissociated from 90 fossil fuel companies, including Exxon Mobil Corp.

University of Cambridge

In October 2022, Cambridge decided to rename its BP Institute to the Institute for Energy and Environmental Flows. In July 2023, a Cambridge-commissioned study called the university to halt funding from fossil fuel companies like BP and Shell.

Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

In April 2023, VU Amsterdam barred all future research collaborations with fossil fuel companies that do not align with the Paris Agreement.

Harvard University

Harvard's Salata Institute for Climate and Sustainability says it "will not accept funds from, or partner with, any company that does not share the goal of moving our global economy away from fossil fuels."

THE PATH FORWARD

1. Rename the Irving Institute building into the Center for Climate Futures
2. Increase institutional support for ground-up sustainability initiatives
3. Remove fossil fuel representatives from the Irving Institute Advisory Board
4. Implement an institutional Fossil Free Research policy to reject donations and research funding from fossil fuel companies
5. Exclude fossil fuel companies from recruitment opportunities on campus and increase the diversity of opportunities in career fairs, particularly non-profit and policy positions

We urge Dartmouth College to take a stance against the fossil fuel industry and boldly step into a new role of climate leadership.

Sign the petition!

@fossilfreedartmouth

Investigating Irving Report

Full report via fossilfreedartmouth.com