

# The Rockefeller Way: The Family's Covert 'Climate Change' Plan

## Executive Summary

By [The Energy & Environmental Legal Institute](#)

Global Research, September 09, 2023

[The Energy & Environmental Legal Institute](#)

1 December 2016

Region: [USA](#)

Theme: [Media Disinformation](#), [Oil and Energy](#)

In-depth Report: [Climate Change](#)

*First published in December 2016, this article is of relevance to an understanding of the ongoing debate on Climate Change as well the Green New Deal, largely controlled by the financial establishment. The Rockefellers also play a key role in the World Economic Forum's Great Reset Proposal.*

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*"Beginning in the 1980s, the Rockefeller Brothers Fund became leading advocates of the global warming agenda. ...*

*In their Sustainable Development Program Review, the Rockefeller Brothers Fund boasts of being one of the first major global warming activists, citing its strong advocacy for both the 1988 formation of the U.N. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and the establishment of the "U.N. Framework Convention on Climate Change." in Rio in 1992 (excerpt from Report)*

*The following text is the Executive Summary of a full length report by The Energy & Environmental Legal Institute published in 2016.*

*This informative report is brought to the attention of Global Research readers. The CRG does not necessarily endorse the title nor the contents of this report.*

*What is important, however, is to acknowledge the role of the Rockefeller family -which historically was the architect of "Big Oil"- in supporting the Climate Change debate as well as the funding of scientists, environmentalists and NGOs involved in grassroots activism against "Big Oil" and the fossil fuel industry.*

*Debate on the world's climate is of crucial importance. But who controls and FINANCES that debate?*

*There is an obvious contradictory relationship: Whereas "Big Oil" is the target of Global Warming activism, "Big Oil" through the Rockefeller Family and Rockefeller Brothers Trusts generously finance the Worldwide climate protest movement. Ask yourself Why?*

*Of relevance to "extreme weather events" and the current climate change debate.*

Michel Chossudovsky, July 13, 2023

[Read full report here.](#)

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*The Rockefellers are arguably the wealthiest and most powerful family in the history of the United States. For more than 100 years, they have shaped and directed America's economic, financial, political, and public policy while simultaneously amassing one of the largest family empires in the modern era.*

*Most Americans hold the billionaire philanthropists in high esteem, associating the Rockefeller name with "oil" and "capitalism." In reality, the Rockefellers are intent on controlling nearly every major institution in America, using philanthropy as a means of increasing their influence on the world stage under the guise of advancing various social causes. Their avid opposition to the very fossil fuel industry that made John D. Rockefeller America's first billionaire shows that the Rockefellers are not political ideologues. Instead, they are mere opportunists who support political agendas convenient to enhancing their leverage in the global arena.*

*Through the Rockefellers' web of family foundations, universities, and institutions, as well as huge grants to other charities, they have gained unprecedented influence in healthcare, pharmaceuticals, agriculture, energy, and the environment. Their highly complex integration of hedge funds, interlocking boards positions, and non-profit organizations has steered public policy on these issues and provided them with foreknowledge of emerging markets and access to the developing worlds' natural resources.*

Since the beginning of their philanthropic endeavors, the Rockefellers have used social causes to amass influence in policy areas of their choosing. Since the 1980s, their cause of choice has been the climate change agenda (originally called global warming). Their crusade to collapse the fossil fuel industry in favor of renewable energy is well-documented, from their involvement in major global climate treaties and organizations - the U.N. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change in 1992 to the 1997 Kyoto Protocol - to spending hundreds of millions to advance the renewable energy industry. Through their Sustainable Development Program, the Rockefellers continue to promote their self-serving "clean energy" policies throughout both the federal government and general public.

As the most prolific benefactors of the climate activist movement, the Rockefellers' impact on the energy industry sees no bounds, as the family's objectives permeate throughout federal and state energy policy, as well as international social engineering globalist compacts such as Agenda 21. With the immeasurable influence that accompanies mass wealth and power, the Rockefeller empire has proven an effective puppeteer of advancing its main objective: the destruction of the fossil fuel industry to increase its clout over the energy sector.



On November 5, 2015, New York Attorney General Eric Schneiderman (image on the right) launched an unprecedented investigation into ExxonMobil to determine if the company had defrauded investors by not disclosing the risks that climate change could have on its business.<sup>1</sup> This occurred only weeks after the Columbia Journalism School's (CJS) Energy and Environment Reporting Fellowship accused Exxon of misleading the public through its Los Angeles Times article, "How Exxon went from leader to skeptic on climate change."<sup>2</sup>

Despite the raging debate over the impact of man-made climate change, left-leaning politicians, lobbyists, and most significantly, billionaires, have declared it settled science, using the issue as a means of gaining control over the energy arena. Research shows that Eric Schneiderman's legal investigation, as well as Columbia Journalism's negative portrayal of ExxonMobil were neither objective nor independent. In fact, substantial evidence leads to the premise that both Columbia Journalism School's accusations against ExxonMobil and Eric Schneiderman's legal investigation into the oil giant were not only financed, but orchestrated by the Rockefeller family.

Notably, the Rockefellers bankrolled the Columbia Journalism School's Energy and Environmental Reporting Fellowship Project's demonization of the oil company.<sup>3</sup> However, both Schneiderman's investigation and Columbia Journalism School's publications were years in the making.

The Rockefeller Family Fund hosted and led two closed door meetings with prominent climate activists – one in 2012 and one in January 2016. Uncovered emails show that the main issue at both gatherings was how to best take down the fossil fuel industry.<sup>4</sup> Aside from key leaders of the Rockefellers' many foundations, both summits included the major players in the climate movement such as: Matt Pawa (attorney at the Center for International Environmental Law), Sharon Eubanks (director of the Department of Justice's tobacco litigation effort in the 1990's and known anti Exxon activist), representatives of Greenpeace, and Carroll Moffit of the Climate Accountability Institute.<sup>5</sup> During both summits, Eric Schneiderman was considered the possible catalyst to spearhead the legal investigation, while ExxonMobil was repeatedly mentioned as the possible target.

Schneiderman's fervent outspokenness against "climate deniers," and public call to enact policies conducive to increasing renewable energy use made him a perfect and willing candidate.<sup>6</sup> When announcing his crusade against Exxon, Schneiderman cited studies from the Rockefeller funded outlets Inside Climate News and Columbia Journalism School's Exxon reports.<sup>7</sup> Revealingly, numerous members of the Rockefeller family had long urged Schneiderman to investigate the oil company.

However, as evidenced in the Rockefeller-hosted La Jolla 2012 meeting report, the family

and climate activists needed a well-known, respected, and objectively perceived media outlet to push the public narrative. Although not disclosed in the summit's documentation, it appears they found one in the Columbia Journalism School. While arguably the most prestigious journalism school in the country, the Columbia Journalism School is not only a beneficiary of millions in Rockefeller donations, it is composed, almost entirely, of professors closely affiliated with the green movement.



In 2013, a year after the plan was crafted, climate alarmist and author of a well-known book condemning ExxonMobil, Steve Coll, was appointed Dean of the Columbia Journalism School.

Not surprisingly, Coll spearheaded the school's Energy and Environmental Reporting Fellowship's project that smeared Exxon. Coll is closely tied to the Rockefellers, as he previously chaired the climate change proponent New America Foundation, which received significant funding from the family. These revelations suggest that the Rockefellers used their influence over both the Columbia Journalism School and Steve Coll to put Coll in place as Dean, providing him the platform to do what he had done voluntarily and enthusiastically once before: publically and thoroughly castigate ExxonMobil.

Along with Coll, as a bastion of climate activists, the Columbia Journalism School was likely an eager participant in the plot to smear Exxon. At least seven CJS professors are directly connected to green activist billionaire George Soros, receiving either awards or significant amounts of money from the socialist philanthropist. Moreover, several CJS alumni board members are prominent climate change advocates, including Scott Dodd, and Thomas Watkins.

This report proposes that the assault on ExxonMobil was neither the idea of Eric Schneiderman, nor the Columbia Journalism School. Instead, the Rockefellers, with the help of other billionaires and prominent climate activists, carefully orchestrated both the legal and media investigations into ExxonMobil in an effort to achieve their goal of collapsing the fossil fuel industry to gain control over the energy sector.

[Read full report here.](#) (22 pages)

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## Notes

- 1 Chris Mooney, "New York is investigating Exxon Mobil for allegedly misleading the public about climate change," The Washington Post, Nov. 5, 2015, Accessed April 16, 2016.
- 2 Katie Jennings, Dino Grandoni and Susanne Rust, "How Exxon Went from leader to skeptic on climate change," Los Angeles Times, Oct. 23, 2015, Accessed April 16, 2016.
- 3 Susanne Rust, "The Energy and Environment Reporting Fellowship," Columbia Journalism School website, Columbia Journalism School, Accessed April 16, 2016.
- 4 Alana Goodman, "Memo Shows Secret Coordination Effort Against ExxonMobil by Climate Activists, Rockefeller Fund," The Washington Free Beacon, April 14, 2016, Accessed April 28, 2016.
- 5 Katie Brown, "Wait Till You See These Secret Memos Laying Out Activists' Plans to Target Exxon," Energy InDepth, April 15, 2016, Accessed April 29, 2016.
- 6 "Schneiderman Delivers Speech on #Climate2014: 'It's Time for Action on Climate Change,'" YouTube, Sep. 22, 2014, Accessed April 20 2016.
- 7 Jon Entine, "How the Columbia Journalism School Smeared Exxon," New York Post, March 1, 2016, Accessed April 21, 2016.

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