



Paris, the 4th of May 2022

Objet: Call on TotalEnergies' financiers and shareholders to push for a 1.5°C-aligned climate plan and the end of oil and gas expansion.

Dear Madam or Sir,

We, the undersigned organizations who work on climate change, financial actors, and corporate accountability, are writing to you to draw your attention to the many inadequacies of TotalEnergies' climate strategy, which is clearly incompatible with the objective of limiting global warming to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels.

We urge you to stop any further financial support to TotalEnergies until the company commits to stop developing new oil and gas projects, which the International Energy Agency (IEA) says is a prerequisite for limiting global warming to 1.5°C.¹

TotalEnergies' will hold its Annual General Meeting (AGM) on the 25th of May 2022. As responsible investors, we also call on you to use your power as shareholders to :

- **Vote against resolution n°16**, which asks you to approve the company's - insufficient - climate and sustainable development strategy. Voting against this management-sponsored resolution is all the more necessary since TotalEnergies is one of the few oil & gas companies where shareholders will not be able to discuss shareholder resolutions on climate this year. Indeed, all the shareholder resolutions that were filed have been unilaterally rejected by TotalEnergies or withdrawn.
- **Vote against resolutions n°6, 7, and 8** proposing the reappointment of three Directors, who bear a direct responsibility in the validation and implementation of the company's flawed climate strategy.

TotalEnergies' climate strategy as presented in resolution n°16 is clearly incompatible with the climate emergency. While the company has not managed to significantly reduce its greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions since the signing of the Paris Agreement,² its 2030 decarbonization targets are also alarmingly insufficient, at -0.3% per year between 2021 and 2030.³ TotalEnergies' trajectory to 2050 seems even more inadequate and unrealistic, since it would imply a decarbonization effort for from

¹ "There is no need for investment in new fossil fuel supply in our net zero pathway", IEA, [Net Zero Emissions by 2050](#) scenario.

² Only -4% over the past seven years across Scopes 1, 2 and 3.

³ Excluding the impact of COVID, which artificially lowered the company's emissions in 2020 and 2021 due to lower demand. Factoring in this impact, TotalEnergies' emissions could even increase by 0.5% per year by 2030 while remaining compatible with its "decarbonisation" targets.

2030 to 2050 that is fourteen times greater than the one planned from 2015 to 2030,⁴ while continuing to rely on technological solutions and offsets that are, at best, uncertain.⁵

TotalEnergies' strategy of expanding fossil fuel production capacity is further undermining and decredibilizing its "transition" plan. While the IEA has indicated that keeping the world on a 1.5°C pathway implies a halt to the development of new oil and gas fields from 2022, TotalEnergies is among the top ten hydrocarbon developers in the world - and the number one in Europe. The company also plans to devote 70% of its capital expenditure to fossil fuels, including €2.6-3.2 billion per year to the development of new oil and gas projects.⁶ By confronting the company's own data to science-backed climate scenarios,⁷ we find that TotalEnergies will have consumed its entire 1.5°C-compatible carbon budget as soon as 2035, and that, by 2050, it will already have emitted an 32% GHG in excess of this budget.⁸

This supports the findings of the Climate Action 100+ (CA100+) initiative, which show in a recent study⁹ that TotalEnergies has not set 1.5°C-aligned short- and medium-term decarbonization targets aligned with 1.5°C, nor has it committed to aligning its capital expenditure with this goal.

The shortcomings of TotalEnergies' climate strategy are reflected in some particularly controversial projects in terms of climate, environment and human rights. This is the case for EACOP/Tilenga in Uganda and Tanzania, whose harmful impacts on the climate,¹⁰ the environment,¹¹ and the population¹² have already led some investors to divest from TotalEnergies.¹³ This is also the case for the Mozambique LNG and Arctic LNG 2 projects, which illustrate TotalEnergies' losing strategy of replacing one fossil fuel (oil) with another (fossil gas). Finally, and even though the company tardily announced initiating a "fallback" from Russia and a \$4.1 billion provision to face risks linked to the Arctic-LNG-2 project, TotalEnergies' positions regarding the continuation of its activities in Russia remain highly controversial, they unfavorably set apart the company from its peers, and they imply important reputational and legal risks for both the company and its shareholders.

As financiers and shareholders of TotalEnergies, you have both a clear responsibility and a real interest in ensuring that the company quickly and concretely aligns its activities on a 1.5°C pathway.

Yet, in 2021, most investors validated the flawed climate plan presented by TotalEnergies, merely to praise the consultation process and even though they recognized the plan's significant limitations.¹⁴

⁴ -6,5% per annum from 2030 - 2050 versus -0,5% p.a. planned over 2015 - 2030.

⁵ In 2050, these solutions would represent 110 Mt of CO₂ per year, (25% of TotalEnergies' 2020-21 emissions). 45% of this volume would be due to the manufacture of fuel and would therefore ultimately avoid any emissions since the CO₂ would be released during combustion.

⁶ Including €500 M€/year for exploration.

⁷ "Net Zéro Emissions by 2050" scenario from the IEA, IPCC scenarios and the methodology developed by the Transition Pathway Initiative.

⁸ See Reclaim Finance's [comparative analysis](#) of oil and gas majors' transition plans.

⁹ Climate Action 100+, [Net Zero Company Benchmark](#).

¹⁰ 34 Mt CO₂ per year - tantamount to 1,5x TotalEnergies' cumulated planned cuts on Scope 1 & 2 emissions to 2030 - with a final investment decision in 2022, which is incompatible with the NZE scenario.

¹¹ Impacting over 2000 km² of protected areas and several endemic species.

¹² 100 000 displaced people.

¹³ Actiam cites EACOP as one of the reasons for its recent divestment decision ([Guardian](#), april2022).

¹⁴ Press release from [IIGCC](#), 2021.

As the sixth IPCC report reminds us of the urgency to act, we call on you to translate your climate commitments into concrete actions, by voting against the "climate" plan proposed by TotalEnergies at its upcoming AGM. Although the company recently presented new commitments regarding the content of its future climate plans,¹⁵ these announcements only deal with form-related issues and do not alter the fact that TotalEnergies' current climate strategy is fundamentally incompatible with a 1.5°C pathway. Finally, approving TotalEnergies' climate plan would be incompatible with your own climate commitments. Indeed, most of you have committed to reducing your emissions by 50% by 2030, whereas the French major only plans a reduction of only -6 to -7% by that date.

Beyond the consultative "Say on Climate" exercise, there is an urgent need for demands and sanctions regarding TotalEnergies' fossil expansion strategy. Between 2016 and 2021, the world's leading banks provided nearly \$1468bn in financing to the 100 largest companies involved in fossil fuel expansion.¹⁶ At the end of the first quarter of 2022, the 30 largest asset managers had more than \$468 billion invested in the 12 largest oil and gas companies.¹⁷

This is why we call on you to take strong and direct action against expansion, on the one hand by suspending all new financial services to TotalEnergies as long as the company is not committed to stop developing new oil and gas fields, and on the other hand by voting at the AGM against the renewal of the mandate of the Directors who have validated the company's fossil expansion strategy.

Thank you for your attention, and we are at your disposal for any further discussion,

Sincerely,

Signatories :

Lorette Philippot, private finance campaigner - Les Amis de la Terre France

Lucie Pinson, executive director - Reclaim Finance

Clémence Dubois, France Manager - 350.org

Teissir Ghrab, campaigner - Le Mouvement

Alexandre Poidatz, advocacy officer "finance and climate" - Oxfam France

Martin Kopp, European Coordinator - GreenFaith France

Hélène Bourges - Campaign Manager oil-transport-ocean - Greenpeace France

Jérémy Suissa, Delegate-General - Notre Affaire à Tous

Anne Bringault, Programs Coordinator - Réseau Action Climat

Ben Lefetey, campaign coordinator - Mouvement Laudato Si' - France

Emma Tosini, national spokesperson - Alternatiba

Marion Leroy de la Brière, national spokesperson - ANV-COP21

Leyla Larbi, Campaign Manager - Sum Of Us

¹⁵ See TotalEnergies' [letter](#) to CA100+.

¹⁶ [Banking on Climate Chaos](#), 2022.

¹⁷ BP, Chevron, ConocoPhillips, Eni, Equino, ExxonMobil, Gazprom, Petrobras, Saudi Aramco, Shell and TotalEnergies