Beat: Health

SOME MULTINATIONAL COMPANIGES ACCUSED OF UNDERMINING ACTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE

25 INVESTORS ASKING FOR EXPLAINATIONS

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USPA NEWS - Twenty five investors wrote to corporate members of EU Trade Lobbies asking for justification of membership of prominent EU Trade Associations. Trade Associations being clearly a key way multinational companies influence...

Twenty five investors wrote to corporate members of EU Trade Lobbies asking for justification of membership of prominent EU Trade Associations. Trade Associations being clearly a key way multinational companies influence policymakers and very opposed for some of them to recent progressive European Union climate policies. The list of companies to whom the letters were destinated was including BP, EDF, Glencore, Johnson Matthey, Procter & Gamble, Rio Tinto, Statoil, Total...

Never before have we faced catastrophic environmental risks on a planetary level. Decisions made now will have profound impacts on the Earth for centuries to come. We assume infinite material growth on a finite planet. We have reached a saturation point in terms of human pressures on the planet. The drama is that Earth is responding in surprising ways to our exponential rise in pressure.

The policies and regulations put in place in Brussels matter to business. Some companies see the transition to a low-carbon society as a business opportunity, while others see it as a threat to their bottom line. There is a certain extend to which companies rely on Trade Associations to do their lobbying in the European Union.

The Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP), an independent NGO, surveyed thousands of companies and found that 77% of Global 500 companies used Trade Associations to lobby on climate change. Many of the Trade Associations have member companies that have made strong statements on sustainability.

Getting behind positions for and against new policy to understand who is lobbying who and for what is very hard. The launch of a new website InfluenceMap (NGO) aims to bring more transparency and openness to the world of lobbying climate change policy.

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