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Two months after IEA report: Oil & gas sector keeps head buried in sand

Industry reaction indicates lack of support for IEA's net zero pathway

Two months after the International Energy Agency (IEA) released its *landmark report* recommending no further exploration or development of new oil and gas fields if net zero by 2050 is to be achieved, an analysis by InfluenceMap shows the industry appears to either think it's wrong or wants to ignore it.

The IEA said it was still possible to transition to a net zero energy system by 2050, but warned the pathway was "narrow" and required urgent shift away from fossil fuels towards renewables.

While many organizations within the oil and gas sectors have pledged their support for net zero emissions, their response to the IEA indicates they are not willing to make the changes outlined in the report.

A full report card on the responses so far is below.

InfluenceMap analyst Alex Cranston said: *"The response so far from the fossil fuel sector shows many organizations remain largely misaligned with the IEA's net zero pathway - even though they claim to take climate change seriously and many have made their own commitments to net zero by 2050."*

"The IEA could not have been clearer - the world needs to urgently transition away from fossil fuels."

"This report card highlights how many in the industry are still trying are still trying to pursue 'business as usual' for oil and gas, in apparent contradiction to the IEA's advice."

The IEA's report was not only a timely warning to organizations involved in fossil fuel production, but also to investors and lending institutions that support these companies.

Investors and lending institutions claiming to take climate change seriously (with corresponding net zero commitments) must now carefully assess their financing decisions against the IEA's net zero pathway.

Some *investor groups* have already indicated they will use the IEA report to put pressure on banks over their lending decisions.

For further information or to arrange interviews, please contact:

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Company	Net Zero by 2050*	Aligns with IEA Net Zero**	Details
Exxon	✓	✗	No direct comment on IEA report, but has since announced high-profile exploration discoveries.
bp	✓	✗	CEO Bernard Looney has claimed that BP's plans are consistent with the IEA report, but also stated that the company intends to continue developing new oil and gas projects.
Shell	✓	✗	Shell has indicated it will continue exploration until 2025.
Chevron	✗	✗	No direct comment on the IEA report, but evidence suggests it is continuing its exploration and development program.
ConocoPhillips	✗	✗	No direct comment on the IEA report, but evidence suggests it is continuing an active exploration program.
TOTAL	✓	✗	Total's Bernard Pinatel says new oil exploration projects are still necessary to avoid a shortfall in demand.
equinor	✓	✗	Equinor declined to say whether the IEA report would alter its future plans, but evidence suggests it is continuing an active exploration and development program.
Woodside	✓	✗	The company describes the IEA pathway as the "most ambitious end of the range of Paris-aligned outcomes" and says it will still consider pushing ahead with new investment in gas fields.
eni	✓	✗	Eni does not appear to have directly commented on the IEA report but appears to be continuing exploration.

* Indicates whether the organization has publicly endorsed economy-wide net-zero by 2050.

** Indicates whether the organization agrees with or is acting in line with the net zero pathway laid out by the IEA.

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Industry association	Net Zero by 2050*	Agrees with IEA Net Zero**	Details
American Petroleum Institute	✗	✗	API warns that scenarios where demand outstrips supply "could deepen energy policy, and stifle innovation and progress". API continues to advocate for increased access to oil and gas reserves for exploration and production.
CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF PETROLEUM PRODUCERS	✓	✗	CAPP Director Tim McMillan appeared to downplay the report, saying "It is critical we remain grounded in the real world", and he was confident the IEA can "develop a different path".
the voice of associations in the oil and gas industry	✓	✗	CEO Andrew McConville says the report should be taken with a "grain of salt" and seemed to claim some of the IEA pathway assumptions are "unrealistic". APPEA continues to advocate for new exploration of gas fields.
OGUK	✓	✗	Sustainability Director Mike Tholen says stopping investment in oil and gas industry would be a major drawback for energy transition.
International Association of Oil & Gas Producers	✓	✗	The IOGP says it's likely there will still need to be "further investments in new oil and gas fields".
Norsk olje & gass	✓	✗	Norwegian Oil and Gas has said halting exploration and development of new fields would "choke off revenues and jobs in Norway" and weaken Norway's ability to decarbonize.

* Indicates whether the organization has publicly and unambiguously endorsed economy-wide net-zero by 2050.

** Indicates whether the organization agrees with or is acting in line with the net zero pathway laid out by the IEA.

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InfluenceMap is a London-based think tank providing data driven analysis to investors, corporations and the media on issues related to energy and climate change. Our metrics for measuring corporate influence over climate policy are in use by investors, including the global Climate Action 100+ investor engagement process. Our content has been covered widely in global media and is used by campaign groups.