



# 40 YEARS OF ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

**1971** Six Protestant denominations hold hearings in Puerto Rico on Kennecott's copper mining plans, citing potential danger to the health and well being of residents living near the mining operation.



**1971** The Episcopal Church Executive Council files a shareholder resolution with American Metal Climax on the environmental impact of its operations.



**1973**



ICCR publishes "The Western Coal Rush," a report on strip mining in western and southwestern states pointing out potential threats to water supply, land reclamation, and mineral rights on private property and Indigenous land.

**1976**



Love Canal toxic waste disaster.

**1979** ICCR members file a resolution with Rockwell International questioning the environmental and health impacts of the company's nuclear weapons facility at Rocky Flats, CO.

**1979** Three Mile Island nuclear meltdown.



**1980**



ICCR members file their first resolutions highlighting the health and environmental dangers of nuclear energy plants with 15 companies, including American Electric Power, General Electric and Consolidated Edison. Members convince four utility companies to drop construction plans for new nuclear power plants.

**1980** ICCR members file a series of resolutions calling on Occidental Petroleum to clean up the company-owned toxic waste sites in Love Canal, and to compensate its victims.

**1980** ICCR members challenge the continued production of controversial defoliants 2,4,5-T and 2,4-D, which contain the same toxins as Agent Orange. As a result, Dow Chemical removes these products from the U.S. market.



**1984** ICCR members file resolutions calling for energy conservation, renewable energy policies, and pollution control.



**1984** Bhopal Union Carbide disaster.

**1985** First ICCR member resolutions addressing acid rain are filed.

**1987** More than a dozen companies, including H.J. Heinz, receive ICCR resolutions on the potential dangers of irradiated food.

**1988** DuPont, the world's largest producer of chlorofluorocarbons, announces it will completely phase out CFC production over a 10-year period after NASA connects increased levels of CFCs in the atmosphere to a hole in the Antarctic ozone layer.

**1989**



Exxon Valdez oil tanker spill occurs in Prince William Sound, Alaska. Yielding to pressure from investors, the company names an environmentalist to its board of directors.

**1989** The Valdez Principles on the Environment, later known as the CERES Principles, are launched by a coalition including ICCR members, pension funds, environmentalists, and social investment analysts.

**1989** The first ICCR resolution referencing "planetary (global) warming" is filed at General Electric.

**1990** A Valdez Principles resolution mentioning the "greenhouse gas effect" is filed at numerous companies.

**1992** Six utility companies receive ICCR shareholder resolutions requesting reports on efforts to reduce carbon dioxide emissions from burning coal, oil and gas.

**1992**



ICCR members send letters warning of the dangers of bovine growth hormone in milk to dairy, food processing, and super market companies.

**1996** ICCR files the first resolution to ask General Electric (GE) to clean up PCBs from the Hudson and Housatonic Rivers.



**1996** ICCR calls on Time Warner, International Paper, and Union Camp to phase out chlorine in paper production. The use of organochlorines results in the toxic by-products dioxins and furans, harmful to human health and the environment.

**1998** ICCR members hold a symposium on the health effects of chlorine in the environment and press for reduced use of chlorine.

**1999** ICCR members file shareholder resolutions on polyvinyl chloride (PVC) materials, which release dioxin when manufactured or incinerated. In response, Baxter International, the world's largest health care product manufacturer, agrees to phase out PVCs in its materials.

**1999** ICCR joins environmental groups to launch Campaign Exxon.



**2000** ICCR members and other concerned investor groups press six life science companies to stop selling genetically engineered foods until long-term safety is assured.



**2000** ICCR members persuade major corporations to withdraw from the Global Climate Coalition, an industry association that questions the existence of global warming. In response the GCC discontinues its corporate membership and later closes its doors.

**2002** Climate change resolutions receive votes of 20%-30%, signaling a shift in shareholder perception that climate change is now an ecological issue with profound financial ramifications.

**2005** Ford Motor Company publishes the first auto industry report on climate risk.

**2005** ICCR begins challenging energy companies' use of the environmentally destructive practice of "mountain top removal" coal mining in Appalachia.

**2005** Members of ICCR tackle the water pollution caused by run-off from vast manure lagoons on concentrated animal feeding operations owned by SmithField and Hormel.



**2006** After a decade of shareholder engagement, GE discloses the cost of its repeated delays in cleaning up the Hudson River.



**2006** ICCR shareholder campaign moves from resolutions on disclosure to asking companies to set GHG reduction targets in both operations AND products.



**2008** ICCR resolutions challenge the environmentally damaging practice of oil/tar sands mining and processing.

**2009** ICCR members challenge mining company Massey Energy on its water pollution violations. More resolutions addressing the business risks of water follow at other companies.



**2010** British Petroleum's Deepwater Horizon oil spill disaster, the largest accidental marine oil spill in the history of the petroleum industry, occurs in the Gulf of Mexico. Led by Christian Brothers Investment Services, ICCR members join a global investor coalition that begins an ongoing campaign to press BP for increased risk management controls.



**2010** Upper Big Branch Massey mine disaster kills 29.

**2010** ICCR asks chemical company PPG Industries to take responsibility for toxic releases afflicting Mossville, LA residents living adjacent to its plant.

**2011** ICCR members file 13 shareholder resolutions addressing the financial risk of coal-fired energy generation, and the hazards of coal mining and waste disposal. ICCR resolution at Ameren (Union Electric) calling for safer coal ash waste disposal wins 52% of the vote.



**2012** ICCR members file 10 resolutions addressing the community and environmental impacts of hydraulic fracturing. ICCR & IEHN release "Extracting the Facts: An Investor Guide to Disclosing Risks from Hydraulic Fracturing Operations".



**2012** After intense shareholder pressure, William Castell, Chair of BP's Safety, Environment and Ethics Committee steps down, and BP announces that it will appoint an independent expert to oversee implementation of safety improvements in the Gulf to improve accountability, in compliance with a request made by CBIS, other ICCR members, and their allies.