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**From:** Streett, Mary [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 25/02/2020 12:22:28  
**To:** Dio, Susan W [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=REDACTED]; Botley, Keith [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Fwd: FT - API membership - BP MENTIONED

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**From:** Fielder, JP [REDACTED]@bp.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 25, 2020 7:21:33 AM  
**To:** Streett, Mary <[REDACTED]@bp.com>; Ellis, Joe [REDACTED]@bp.com>; Bob Miner [REDACTED]@bp.com>; Stout, Robert <[REDACTED]@bp.com>; Scher, Robert [REDACTED]@bp.com>; Khalilov, Seymour [REDACTED]@bp.com>; Clanton, Brett [REDACTED]@bp.com>; Harrison, Tara [REDACTED]@bp.com>; Phillippe, John [REDACTED]@bp.com>  
**Cc:** Nolan, James [REDACTED]@bp.com>; Ryan, Jason <[REDACTED]@bp.com>; Lucas, Sarah [REDACTED]@bp.com>; Baldino, Megan [REDACTED]@bp.com>  
**Subject:** FT - API membership - BP MENTIONED

# Redacted - First Amendment

## FT - Oil lobby group defends credentials amid BP green review

Gregory Meyer in Washington

API, a powerbroker in Washington, says 'P is for petroleum' as UK company examines ties

Big Oil's most powerful Washington lobby group is insisting it can still represent European energy majors, even as some of its most important members such as BP tilt to a greener agenda that is at odds with some of its major policy positions.

The American Petroleum Institute's president, Mike Sommers, told the Financial Times in an interview that the mood shift was not going to change the group's fundamental mission.

With 600 members and more than \$200m in annual revenue, API is the biggest energy trade association and questions over its future could reverberate across the industry.

Partly a standards-setting body, its mission is also to "influence public policy in support of a strong, viable US oil and natural gas industry," according to a filing to tax authorities.

BP chief executive Bernard Looney announced last week his company would eradicate emissions associated with its business by 2050 and launched a fundamental shift in corporate strategy — and executive leadership — to meet the goal.

This week, it intends to follow up with a review of its memberships in groups such as API. It is prepared to quit those at odds with its new climate agenda, the UK oil major said, and seek policy shifts at others.

Environmental Defense Fund, a green advocacy group, said BP's pledge meant it needed to actively support public policy to reach net zero emissions. "The rest of the industry should take note: hiding behind trade associations is no longer an option," EDF's Ben Ratner wrote.

Mr Sommers set out an uncompromising stall against those pushing API to emphasise a shift away from fossil fuels.

"The P in API is petroleum," he said. "And I think that we'll continue to represent this industry for many, many years to come."

The 100-year-old institute has taken stands inconsistent with BP's. For example, it supports a Trump administration proposal to drop limits on methane leaks from oil and gas producers. BP wants government to keep the limits.

On other matters, API has been silent where some of its larger members are vocal. BP, ExxonMobil and other oil giants back a US push for a price on carbon, to account for its environmental cost. API has not taken a position, with Mr Sommers saying it would weigh in once bills were under debate in the US House and Senate.

Mr Sommers said: “I’m confident that we’re going to be able to continue to represent this industry, including Total, including BP, including Shell, including Equinor, for many, many years to come.”

BP is seen as unlikely to cut ties to API. Total of France and Royal Dutch Shell both conducted similar reviews of association memberships and neither left, despite finding some misalignment.

BP may follow Total and Shell in leaving the American Fuel & Petroleum Manufacturers, however, a lobby group for the US oil and petrochemicals sector, according to industry sources. AFPM declined to comment.

Mr Sommers said API members should be proud of their record on climate. “It is almost entirely because of this industry that we’ve been able to reduce emissions to the lowest levels in a generation.”

The reduction is due to cheap natural gas, whose production has soared in the US and which has displaced coal, which emits more carbon dioxide when burnt. However, the US government projects that the country’s CO2 emissions from energy will be relatively flat over the next 30 years as oil and gas use continues, falling short of goals to mitigate global warming.

The Trump administration’s plan to drop federal limits on leaks of methane, a greenhouse gas with 25 times the heating effects of carbon dioxide, would increase methane emissions by 350,000 short tons by 2025, according to its own Environmental Protection Agency.

Mr Sommers discounted the EPA’s conclusion, noting that experts had previously failed to predict the decline in US carbon emissions.

“A one-size-fits-all approach to regulation we don’t think is in the best interest of the American consumer, the environment, or the industry,” he said.

Mr Sommers also warned of “economic calamity” if Bernie Sanders succeeded in banning fracking. An end to fracking, a move proposed both by Mr Sanders, the Democratic presidential primary frontrunner, and one of his rivals, Elizabeth Warren, could axe 7m jobs, he said.

**J.P. Fielder**

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