

HOW EXXON RULES THE WORLD

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THE FUTURE IS EXXON

Paul Roberts

An examination of the richest company in human history—the largest, most influential actor in a vital industry, written by the acclaimed author of *The End of Oil*.

Descended from John D. Rockefeller's 19th-century Standard Oil Company, and now officially known as the ExxonMobil Corporation, Exxon is arguably the fullest expression of American-style global capitalism of our time—but also the most paradoxical. For all its extraordinary success, Exxon has one of the worst public images of any major corporation, loathed for its ecological disasters, litigation, and lobbying. Within its own industry, Exxon is regarded as hostile and imperious. And while Exxon is more profitable than any company, ever—and could buy Wal-Mart outright—that massive success is dismissed as short-lived: Exxon remains an unapologetic champion of yesterday's fuels—coal, gas, but especially oil—which it believes will dominate the energy mix until well past 2050. Now, journalist Paul Roberts examines this uniquely powerful company, whose leaders and policies will affect the lives of people throughout the world throughout the world for decades to come.

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PAUL ROBERTS is the author of *The End of Oil* and *The End of Food*. He writes and lectures frequently on the complex interplay of economics, technology, and the natural world. Roberts has also written for *The Los Angeles Times*, *The Washington Post*, and *The (UK) Guardian* and has appeared in *Slate*, *USA Today*, *The New Republic*, *Newsweek*, *The Christian Science Monitor*, *Rolling Stone*, *Seed*, and *Outside* magazine. He was a finalist for the National Magazine Award (1999) and for the New York Public Library Helen Bernstein Book Award for Excellence in Journalism in 2005. A long-time observer of energy issues and politics, Roberts appears regularly on national and international television and radio news shows. He lives in Washington State.

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