Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Amendment No.)
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EXXON MOBIL CORPORATION
(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)
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(2) Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:
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(4) Date Filed:

RENEWABLE ENERGY: TODAY'S BASICS

<TABLE> <CAPTION>

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Fossil fuel energy - coal, oil and natural gas underpins all modern economies. Abundant alone and affordable, fossil fuels have contributed to unprecedented prosperity for much of the <C>

quires significant land. For example, making enough ethanol to fuel cars in California

would consume America's entire corn crop. WIND AND SOLAR POWER are very limited in human race. In decades to come, the benefits current application, together providing less than of modern fossil fuel energy will extend even one-tenth of one percent of U.S. energy needs. further. WIND POWER, which generally enjoys tax But fossil fuels coexist alongside "renewsubsidies, is approaching conventional fossil able" energy alternatives. Renewable energy is sources in cost. Some states mandate that utilinexhaustible for all practical purposes (solar ities purchase wind-generated power. Unfortu-"renewed" through natural arrays are land-intensive and even with carefully processes (hydropower, THOUGH PROMISING, seplant-based fuels). Nuclear lected sites power output power, which is essentially RENEWABLE ENERGY'S varies with the wind on anv inexhaustible, shares sevgiven day, requiring backeral similarities with renew-POTENTIAL SHOULD up generation. Nevertheless, wind power is ables. Interest in renewables BE TEMPERED growing rapidly. has grown with the in-Though the cost of creased attention to cli-WITH REALISM. photovoltaic SOLAR POWER _____ is declining, it is mate change, as most currently 8 renewables do not directly add to greenhouse to 10 times more expensive than conventional gases. electrical power generation. It has found niche, off-grid applications, and is, like wind, HYDROPOWER AND NUCLEAR POWER toarowina rapidly from a small base. gether supply about 12 percent of U.S. energy. These sources are not growing, however. Solar power is dependent on sunlight Hydroelectric dams are site-limited as well as availability and is space-intensive. Here again, controversial due to their environmental imits potential must be tempered with realism. For pacts. Nuclear-plant siting and nuclear-waste example, we use solar panels for supplemendisposal issues are highly contentious, and new tary water heating at our office building in construction has been slow and costly. Fairfax, Virginia, but providing for all of the site's BIOFUELS based on wood have been ecocomparatively modest power needs would renomic and successful in the U.S. in limited apquire over 300 ACRES of solar panels. plications such as fuel in pulp and paper mills. Though renewables are promising, it is CORN-BASED ETHANOL is used as a gasoline important to keep the size of their contribution and their current limitations in perspective. additive in some areas, but is only competitive Next due to federal and state tax subsidies that can week, we'll talk more about renewables in the exceed 60 cents a gallon. Ethanol can also refuture, including the roles of technology and quire considerable energy to produce and regovernment policies.

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