

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2602

July 5, 2011

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Mr. Rex Tillerson
Exxon Mobil
Chairman and CEO
5959 Las Colinas Blvd
Irving, Texas 75039-4202

Dear Mr. Tillerson:

While the investigation is underway into the cause of the ruptured ExxonMobil oil pipeline near Billings, Montana, that spilled an estimated 1,000 barrels of oil into the Yellowstone River this past weekend, I request the following information from ExxonMobil. Please describe:

- The pipeline integrity system in place before the spill, including a detailed description of the risk evaluation procedures used by ExxonMobil;
- A chronology of inspections of the ruptured pipeline by ExxonMobil, the Pipelines and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), and any other government agencies, including details about the types of information gathered;
- Any correspondence in the last 5 years between ExxonMobil and PHMSA regarding the ruptured pipeline;
- The latest status of clean-up efforts directed by or aided by ExxonMobil on the Yellowstone River;
- The chain of command for the spill clean-up effort between government agencies, ExxonMobil, and any other private entities;
- The scientific sources consulted by ExxonMobil regarding the impact of the spill on the Yellowstone River ecosystem;
- The claims process that ExxonMobil will set up to ensure that Montanans impacted by the spill have swift recourse to legitimate repayment. Please devote special attention to the speed of this claims process.

The Yellowstone River is a special place: it is one of America's great rivers—the longest free-flowing river in the continental United States. As a long-time operator in the Billings area, your company knows how vital the river is to the economy and quality of life of southern Montana. The livelihood of homeowners, outfitters, sportsmen, and other businesses depend on a clean river. The river is critical habitat for species whose survival also depends on a clean river. I trust that this understanding will infuse your continuing response to the spill.

Your industry should have zero tolerance for spills of this type. I thank you and your staff for reaching out immediately to my office after the spill, and look forward to your communication of the information requested above.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Max Baucus". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Max Baucus
U.S. Senator