

## **Letter Delivery Toolkit**

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## Why Chase? Why Now?

JPMorgan Chase is the world's worst banker of climate change—by a wide margin. It is profiting off climate chaos and human rights abuses by providing \$269 billion in total financing since the Paris Agreement (2016-2019). This means Chase is the world's worst banker of fossil fuel expansions, Arctic oil and gas, ultra-deepwater oil and gas, and the worst U.S. banker of tar sands. This must stop.

Thank you for taking action to demand that JPMorgan Chase stop bankrolling climate disaster and Indigenous rights abuses. Dozens of people, like you, across the country have already hand-delivered letters to Chase branch managers. By taking action you're showing bank leadership our collective commitment to action for climate justice.

Behind every tar sands pipeline, coal terminal, and major fossil fuel project lies a private bank that is financing the destruction of our climate. If we can stop that flow of money, we will stop the flow of oil. If enough of us take action and make our voices heard, investments in these heinous projects will simply no longer be worth it for the banks.

We have compiled this simple toolkit to help you take your voice directly to Chase by delivering a letter to a local branch manager. To learn more about the role that bank's play in the climate crisis, there are good articles <u>here</u>, <u>here</u>, and <u>here</u>.

## How to Deliver a Letter to a Chase Branch Manager

- Find a JPMorgan Chase location near you You can use this handy locator on Chase's website.
- 2. **Print off the Letter to the Manager** This letter is on page 3 for you to print. You may want to have a couple of copies on hand.
- 3. Arrange a meeting with a local Bank Manager Call ahead of time to set up a short meeting with the Branch Manager. You can do this by simply calling the branch and requesting to be transferred to the manager or requesting their email to set up a meeting. It's not required that you do this ahead of time but it helps make sure that the manager is available to talk with you when you arrive.
- 4. **Recruit your friends** Asking a small group of 4 or 5 friends to join you is a great way to show how many people care about this issue. Plus, it's always more fun to do things in a group! If you know anyone who is a Chase customer that can add to your impact. Of course, if you don't have a group one person can also make a difference.
- 5. Take a photo and share it on social media Sharing your efforts with your social network helps inspire others to take action for our climate. When you arrive at the branch be sure to take a photo of you and your group with the letter. Don't forget to get the Chase logo in the shot so people know where you are. Then post it on social media with the tag #DefundClimateChange or you can email it to us: organizinghelp@ran.org.
- 6. <u>Deliver your letter to the manager</u> Hand the manager the letter and make an official complaint to them about Chase's financing of climate change.
  - State your concern that Chase is the world's worst banker of climate change.
  - Explain why you care about climate change and how it impacts you personally.
    There are some good talking points in the letter.
  - Ask that they commit to sending this letter to their regional manager and the
    Chase corporate offices. Details are provided in the letter.
- 7. <u>Congrats! You did it!</u> It's important to celebrate each small step toward climate justice so we can create the world we need. <u>Please fill out this quick report back form</u> so we can follow up with other opportunities!

Questions? We're here to support you! Just email us: <a href="mailto:organizinghelp@ran.org">organizinghelp@ran.org</a>

**Ready to do more?** Get creative and combine your letter delivery with petitioning, flyering, a rally, a die-in, street theater, etc. Have fun!

Dear	
Deai	,

Since the landmark international plan to combat climate change, the Paris Agreement, was signed in 2015, JPMorgan Chase has loaned over \$269 billion to the fossil fuel industry — including over \$102 billion in loans to fossil fuel companies that are aggressively expanding their operations. The burning of fossil fuels is a key contributor to climate change.

It is wholly unacceptable that Chase is continuing to fund destructive, climate-wrecking fossil fuel companies, with absolutely no plan to stop. In 2018, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report has made it clear that we must reduce our global greenhouse gas pollution by at least 45% by 2030 to curtail global warming to below 1.5 degrees celsius.

If we fail to do that, the projected impacts include:

- Hundreds of millions of more people will be pushed into extreme poverty and experience food scarcity as crops fail
- An additional 1.4 billion people will experience extreme heat waves at least once every five years
- Hurricanes and wildfires will be dramatically more frequent and severe
- Sea level rise will be catastrophic in low-lying coastal regions
- The complete loss of Arctic sea ice will become 10x more likely, resulting in the probable extinction of polar bears, many whales, seals, and sea birds
- All of the world's coral reefs, one of the world's most diverse habitats, will be annihilated

Many people are already suffering from these impacts. As you think about the fact that we have a decade to reduce our global climate pollution by almost 50%, I ask that you also remind yourself that this is not a single scientific report from a fringe scientist. The IPCC report is a synthesis of over 6,000 peer-reviewed studies on the science of our climate. This is the scientific consensus. There are many who fear that it is even worse than this.

In addition to threatening our shared climate, it is well-documented that fossil fuels harm the health of communities at the point of extraction and in areas surrounding refineries. Chase has also continued to fund companies building deeply problematic projects, such as the Line 3 pipeline and the Keystone XL pipeline, which violate Indigenous communities' right to Free, Prior and Informed Consent.

We must rapidly transition away from fossil fuels, or witness vast levels of human suffering and the eradication of many of our fellow species. And yet, JPMorgan Chase continues to fund new coal terminals, new oil terminals, new tar sands pipelines, and the new Arctic drilling exploration; all of which would lock-in climate pollution for decades to come.

As the world's largest funder of the fossil fuel industry, JPMorgan Chase is not only complicit in the climate crisis but culpable.

And so I am writing to you, as a manager at JPMorgan Chase, because I believe that people are not corporations, but people *are* responsible for the actions of corporations. In October 2020, JPMorgan Chase made a new commitment to align its financing with the goals of the Paris Climate Agreement. While this is an encouraging step, it is a promissory note for 2030 at the earliest that doesn't meet the need for immediate action to bend the curve on the climate crisis.

With that in mind, I ask that you please forward this letter to your regional manager, as well as to Matthew Arnold, the Global Head of Sustainable Finance, and Marisa Buchanan, the V-P of Sustainable Finance — and that you ask what they are doing to align JPMorgan Chase's business model with the Paris Agreement.

I am not alone in asking that JPMorgan Chase stop funding the destruction of our planet. Since March 20th, people from all over the world have emailed Chase CEO, Jamie Dimon, to ask that Chase stop funding fossil fuels. As climate impacts grow steadily worse, the numbers of people drawing the connections between your bank and the climate crisis will only grow.

I look forward to hearing a response.

Yours sincerely,