

NGO threatens Shell with lawsuit over climate 'destruction'

April 4 2018



Shell is among the world's top climate polluters, according to Friends of the Earth

An environmental campaign group on Wednesday threatened to take Anglo-Dutch oil giant Royal Dutch Shell to court should it fail to comply

with climate targets set out under the Paris Agreement.

"Friends of the Earth Netherlands announced today that they will take Shell to court if it does not act on demands to stop its destruction of the [climate](#)," the group said in a statement, accusing the firm of being "among the ten biggest climate polluters worldwide".

The group said Shell promotes gas as a "clean fuel", as it cited research that "shows that Europe cannot continue to use fossil fuels including gas" and meet its climate commitments under the Paris Agreement.

Shell did not respond to requests for comment from AFP on the threatened lawsuit.

According to Friends of the Earth's Dutch chapter, Shell has two months to take action or else face legal action.

The [group](#) said in its statement that the threatened lawsuit—supported by Friends of the Earth's European and international sections—was the first demanding climate action from a [fossil fuels](#) company.

"This ground-breaking case, if successful, would significantly limit Shell's investments in oil and gas globally by forcing them to comply with [climate targets](#)," the statement said.

Karin Nansen, chair of Friends of the Earth's global office, said: "This case matters for people everywhere... With this lawsuit we have a chance to hold Shell to account."

The threat comes a month after Amnesty International urged energy-rich Nigeria to re-open investigations into oil spills in its southern delta region after claims that Shell and Italian oil firm ENI misreported the causes.

Shell rejected the allegations, saying they were "false, without merit and fail to recognise the complex environment in which it operates".

The energy giant in February said a major recovery in oil prices enabled it to nearly triple profits in 2017.

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Citation: NGO threatens Shell with lawsuit over climate 'destruction' (2018, April 4) retrieved 19 April 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2018-04-ngo-threatens-shell-lawsuit-climate.html>

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