

EcoTress Solutions

<u>Team Member Name</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Major</u>
Nikhila Rao	Sophomore	International Business
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Advisor: Ryan Langan

Topic: Oil Spill Remediation for Chevron

Audience: Chevron's Board of Directors

Sustainable Development Goal

SDG #4: Life Below Water: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development

SDG #12: Responsible Consumption and Production: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns

Executive Summary

Chevron, a major oil and gas company, has made numerous sustainability pledges, including reducing its carbon footprint and investing in carbon capture and storage. However, they are criticized for frequent fossil fuel projects and oil spills, significantly impacting marine ecosystems. The frequency of these spills has led to significant damage to aquatic ecosystems, causing harm to marine organisms' health and seabirds' ability to fly, and disrupting food chains. Despite claims of improving sustainability in oil spill remediation, the company has unreported spills, ineffective cleanup efforts, and continued investment in these operations. We propose a solution using Hairmats and Hairbooms for oil spills, which absorb up to five times their weight in oils. For instance, hair clippings from hair salons can be repurposed into these products, containing and collecting oil around the spill perimeter. It is a renewable material, making it a cost-effective and attractive financial expenditure for the company.

Additionally, partnering with the NGO Greenspace, which promotes accountability and transparency for oil companies can help track Chevron's spills and determine the best locations for the hair mats and booms. These solutions aim to lead to reconstructive efforts for marine life and place Chevron as a leading example of using renewable resources to combat environmental implications.