

For Immediate Release: February 17, 2021

Contact: Kari Hudnell, kari@abpartners.co, 609-668-0560

BlackRock's Climate Disclosure Requests Accomplish Nothing Without Consequences for Boards Failing to Lead Companies Towards Decarbonization

NEW YORK — Eli Kasargod-Staub, executive director of <u>Majority Action</u>, a nonprofit shareholder advocacy organization, released the following statement in response to <u>BlackRock's new publication</u> on climate risk and investment stewardship:

BlackRock continues to do everything except that which is most important to avert catastrophic climate change—commit to holding directors at carbon-intensive companies accountable for eliminating their emissions. BlackRock's "Expectations of Boards" calls for directors to be "mitigating risks," "capitalizing on efficiencies," and pursuing "innovation and opportunities" — none of which is sufficient to ensure that companies are urgently and fundamentally re-aligning their capital expenditures and policy influence to industry-specific pathways for decarbonization to limit warming to 1.5° C. Investors will not be protected from the systemic risks of climate change by this kind of business as usual corporate governance.

Majority Action's research has consistently demonstrated BlackRock's track record of overwhelmingly shielding carbon-intensive industries from accountability. This season, we will continue to put BlackRock's profession of concern on climate to the test on the only metric that matters — whether they vote against directors who are failing to lead their companies towards the imperative of decarbonization.

###

Majority Action is a nonprofit organization dedicated to empowering shareholders of all sizes to hold corporations and their leadership accountable to high standards of long-term value creation, corporate governance, and social responsibility. www.majorityaction.us