



**OUR BANKS ARE  
IN A DANGEROUS  
RELATIONSHIP WITH  
THE FOSSIL FUEL  
INDUSTRY.**

**THINK WE'LL STAND  
BY THAT?  
DON'T BANK ON IT.**



# HOW ARE BANKS FUNDING THE CLIMATE CRISIS?

The International Energy Agency - the world's most influential energy body - announced in 2021 that there should be no investment in new oil, gas or coal expansion if we want to limit global temperature rise and avoid climate catastrophe.

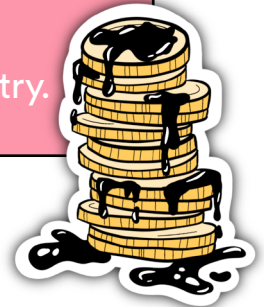
Despite this, in 2021 the world's largest 60 banks funnelled \$185.5 billion into the 100 companies doing the most to expand the fossil fuel sector.

In the UK, the banks on our high street are perpetuating the problem. Between 2016 and 2021, the Big Five - HSBC, Barclays, Santander, NatWest and Lloyds - have collectively funneled \$368 billion into the fossil fuel industry.

Put simply, the fossil fuel industry cannot exist without banks, and as a result banks are playing a critical role in financing the climate crisis.

## \$368 billion

Did you know that between 2016 and 2021, the Big Five - HSBC, Barclays, Santander, NatWest and Lloyds - have collectively funneled \$368 billion into the fossil fuel industry.



## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

The banks continue to be in a dangerous relationship with fossil fuel expanders and increasing the chances that global temperatures will rise over 1.5°C, creating climate catastrophe. There's something they haven't banked on, though...

Banks need us as customers – so if you have a bank account with the Big Five, they need you. One customer threatening to leave won't make them change their ways, but if thousands of us do, that's how we can create real change.

[Sign the open letter](#)

# WHAT IF I DON'T HAVE A BANK ACCOUNT WITH ONE OF THE BIG FIVE?

You can still help – right now, these banks are relying on us not knowing what they're doing. Chances are you know at least one person banking with the Big Five. The best thing you can do is tell your friends and family about this and get them involved. Why not share this guide with your loved ones?

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## WHAT ELSE CAN I DO?

We'll be sharing actions you can get involved in over the coming months, but if you're keen to keep the pressure up in the meantime here are some ways you can get involved:

**1.**

Contact your bank via social media, phone, or email and let them know that as a customer you are unhappy with their practices



**2.**

Talk to your friends and family about what bank they're with, and how they can put pressure on them to stop financing fossil fuel expansion



**3.**

Find out who your employer banks with, and if it's one of the Big Five, let them know that your company could be unwittingly supporting fossil fuel expansion through their bank



## WHAT TO SAY

Feel free to change into your own words, but here's some tips for getting started with these conversations:

- Banks could be leading the way by refusing to finance fossil fuel expansion, and it would become difficult for fossil fuel companies to find this money elsewhere
- Instead of funding dirty energy, banks could be lending significantly more to renewables and climate solutions
- To avoid climate catastrophe, there can be no investment in new oil and gas fields. This is backed up clearly by leading climate scientists, economists and even the International Energy Agency
- When banks make these reckless decisions, we as customers unwittingly become supporters of these dangerous practices
- While banks and fossil fuel companies get richer, the impacts of climate change that they are causing are impacting people who have done the least to cause climate change
- Banks can live without fossil fuels; but fossil fuels can't live without banks – your actions could have a transformative impact



**Richard Curtis,**  
Co-Founder at Make  
My Money Matter



“The power of us as individuals, making our money matter, is extraordinary, and we’re delighted that you’ve joined our campaign.”

By telling your bank that you want them to stop financing new fossil fuel expansion, you’re helping ensure billions of pounds go towards the industries that tackle the climate crisis, not those fuelling the fire.”

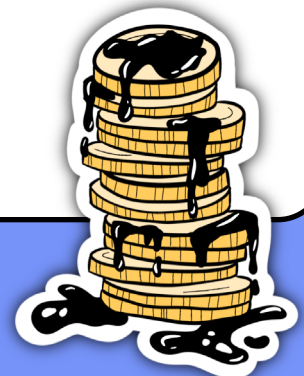
## SOURCES

- [The IEA Net Zero Roadmap](#)
- [Banking on Climate Chaos report](#)
- [Share Action Oil & Gas Expansion report](#)



**THANK YOU FOR  
JOINING OUR  
CAMPAIGN TO  
ENSURE BANKS DO  
THE RIGHT THING.  
WE CAN'T WAIT TO  
SEE WHAT WE CAN  
ACHIEVE TOGETHER!**

More info on  
[www.makemymoneymatter.co.uk](http://www.makemymoneymatter.co.uk)



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