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Climate Change AG Investigations and Municipal Litigation.

Several state attorneys general (“state AGs”) recently have undertaken high-profile investigations into energy producers’ research and public statements about the potential effects of climate change. Thus far, energy companies like ExxonMobil (“Exxon”) have encountered limited success challenging these investigations. In addition, a number of cities and municipalities have filed lawsuits against major energy producers, alleging that these companies knowingly contributed to the harmful effects of climate change.

This article surveys recent developments in these state AG investigations and municipal lawsuits against energy companies. Although these investigative and litigation trends remain in their early stages, it appears that energy producers may continue to face increasing climate-change government investigations and related litigation.

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