

June 8, 2022

VIA ECF

Clerk of the Court
United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit
21400 U.S. Courthouse
601 Market Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Re: *City of Hoboken v. Chevron Corp., et al.*, No. 21-2728
Defendants-Appellants' Response to Plaintiff-Appellee's Citation of Supplemental
Authorities

Dear Office of the Clerk:

The First Circuit's decision in *Rhode Island v. Shell Oil Products Co., LLC*, 2022 WL 1617206 (1st Cir. May 23, 2022), is neither controlling nor persuasive.

Federal Common Law. *Rhode Island* held that displacement of federal common law made removal impermissible. *Id.* at *4–5. That is incorrect because, as Defendants have explained here, the displacement of federal-common-law *remedies* does not mean that Plaintiff can bring its *claims* under state law. Reply Brief at 14–16. *Rhode Island* directly conflicts with the Second Circuit's decision, which rejected this exact argument in a nearly identical case: “[S]tate law does not suddenly become presumptively competent to address issues that demand a unified federal standard simply because Congress saw fit to displace a federal court-made standard with a legislative one,” and such an outcome is “too strange to seriously contemplate.” *City of New York v. Chevron Corp.*, 993 F.3d 81, 98–99 (2d Cir. 2021).

Grable. Removal is proper under *Grable* because “federal common law alone governs” Plaintiff's claims. Opening Brief (“OB”) at 31. *Rhode Island* did not address this argument. *See* 2022 WL 1617206, at *6.

Federal-Officer Removal. *Rhode Island* relied on a significantly more limited record than exists in this case. For example, the court in *Rhode Island* did not consider the “produc[tion] and supply [of] large quantities of highly specialized fuels to the federal government.” OB.47–52. Moreover, Defendants here have submitted un rebutted expert declarations from Professors Mark Wilson and Tyler Priest—historians of military-industrial relations and energy policy, respectively—demonstrating that significant portions of

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Defendants' oil and gas production and sales over the last century were conducted under the direction, guidance, supervision, and control of the federal government. *See* OB.38–52.

OCSLA. *Rhode Island's* conclusion that OCSLA jurisdiction does not exist is inconsistent with the plain meaning of “in connection with” and ignores that Plaintiff’s Complaint plainly alleges that Defendants’ worldwide “mass extraction, production[,] and marketing of fossil fuels” have caused “increasing concentration of atmospheric greenhouse gasses,” “sea levels to rise,” and “devastating climate impact,” 2-JA-44–46, for which Plaintiff seeks relief.

Sincerely,

/s/ Theodore J. Boutrous, Jr.

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cc: All counsel of record (via ECF)