



Open Thread: On punishing ExxonMobil

Posted by [Yankee](#) on April 17, 2006 - 1:52pm

Topic: [Demand/Consumption](#)

Tags: [boycott](#), [exxonmobil](#), [gas prices](#) [[list all tags](#)]

Something to get you started on this Monday open thread. Tim Haab at [Environmental Economics](#) recently received a chain-letter email promoting a scheme to [lower gas prices by boycotting ExxonMobil](#). As the reasoning goes, if consumers boycott ExxonMobil, they'll be forced to lower their prices, which will then force everyone else to play along. Haab wants to know—*if consumers were actually to carry out the scheme*—would it actually make EM lower their prices?* (Don't forget, Haab is an economist, and promises to give his opinion on the issue later this week.)

*I think we all get the naivete of this scheme, but discussing this sort of thing is up many TOD commenters' alley.



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