UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 14A

(Rule 14a-101) INFORMATION REQUIRED IN PROXY STATEMENT SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Filed by the Registrant \Box Check the appropriate box: Filed by a party other than the Registrant \square

Preliminary Proxy Statement

- □ Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14-a6(e)(2))
- □ Definitive Proxy Statement
- Definitive Additional Materials
- □ Soliciting Material Pursuant to §240.14a-12

Occidental Petroleum Corporation

(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

Carl C. Icahn Icahn Partners LP Icahn Partners Master Fund LP High River Limited Partnership Hopper Investments LLC Barberry Corp. Icahn Enterprises G.P. Inc. Icahn Enterprises Holdings L.P. IPH GP LLC Icahn Capital L.P. Icahn Onshore LP Icahn Offshore LP Beckton Corp.

(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if Other Than The Registrant)

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

No fee required.

- Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(1) and 0-11.
 - (1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:
 - (2) Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies:
 - (3) Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (set forth the amount on which the filing fee is calculated and state how it was determined):
 - (4) Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:
 - (5) Total fee paid:
- □ Fee paid previously with preliminary materials.
 - Check box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing for which the offsetting fee was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the Form or Schedule and the date of its filing.
 - (1) Amount Previously Paid:
 - (2) Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:
 - (3) Filing Party:
 - (4) Date Filed:

Contact:

Icahn Capital LP Susan Gordon (212) 702-4309

Carl C. Icahn Issues Open Letter to Occidental Petroleum Stockholders

Recent Actions by OXY's Management and Board Indicate a Lack of Checks and Balances Stockholder Action is Required Immediately to Hold the Board Accountable and Prevent Further Value Destruction

Stockholder Representation on the Board and Corporate Governance Changes Needed Immediately

New York, New York, July 22nd, 2019 -- Today, Carl C. Icahn released the following open letter to stockholders of Occidental Petroleum Corporation.

July 22nd, 2019

Dear Fellow Occidental Stockholders:

We own over 33 million shares of Occidental Petroleum and we believe what recently happened in the OXY

Boardroom is reprehensible. In over 50 years on Wall Street I have seen many management teams and boards callously disregard stockholder rights to protect their jobs, and in some cases, build corporate empires at the expense of shareholders, but I have only rarely seen a situation such as the one at Occidental, where the Board and Vicki Hollub, OXY's President and CEO, entered into an extremely risky transformational merger, without a stockholder vote. In my opinion, OXY's massive and risky Anadarko bet that gambles the Company's future without the approval of shareholders will prove to be grossly negligent and might possibly cause the Company to lose its valuable listing on the New York Stock Exchange.

OXY has lost over \$12 billion in market value since its interest in buying Anadarko was first reported. But regardless, Hollub, the architect of the plan, will not suffer financially as she was paid \$40 million over the past 3 years and will most certainly be paid at least another \$14 million in 2019. <u>Hollub is paid \$270,000 *per week*, which is more than 113x OXY's median employee compensation of \$2,387 *per week*. Think about that, the median OXY employee has to work over 2 years to earn what Hollub makes in a week. OXY's Board Chairman, Eugene Batchelder, makes \$490,000 a year, which is 4 times the median OXY employee's annual pay. Further, the median OXY employee works a full-time job; Batchelder attended six Board meetings in 2018, for which he was paid \$81,600 per meeting. No matter how badly shareholders suffer, OXY's CEO and Chairman will continue to be among the most highly paid in the world.</u>

Management's Abysmal Record

No management or board should be scrambling around to prevent a stockholder vote on a dangerous transformational transaction, but what makes OXY's actions even worse is management's egregious track record. When Hollub became CEO in April 2016, OXY's stock closed at \$77 per share, while oil was \$45 a barrel. Today, at \$52 per share, the stock is 33% lower, even though the price of oil is almost 25% higher. On a relative basis over that same timeframe, OXY has underperformed its peers by over 30%. To make matters even worse, Hollub has completely destroyed Wall Street analysts' expectations of OXY. When she was appointed CEO, OXY had 52% buy ratings; today OXY has 14% buy ratings even though the stock is 33% cheaper and oil is higher.

Since taking over, Hollub put OXY's cherished dividend at risk by selling cash-producing assets, overspending on drilling and acquiring non- cash producing assets. In fact, in 2016 and 2017, the Company was forced to divest assets at what we believe to be cheap values and use balance sheet cash to pay the dividend, which is neither a sustainable nor a prudent strategy. While we are told Hollub is a somewhat competent operator, she has admitted that she has limited M&A experience, yet she just orchestrated one of 2019's biggest M&A transactions and that limited experience sure does show! She also arranged the financing for the acquisition in a 90-minute meeting with Warren Buffett. I believe Hollub learned that negotiating a deal with Buffett, one of the country's canniest operators, is not the optimal way to get M&A experience. In my opinion, **Buffett figuratively took her to the cleaners.** Not only did he get a \$10 billion preferred paying 8% but he also amazingly received a bonus of 80 million warrants worth approximately \$1.2 billion simply for providing the financing. At least one large investor that I know of would have been happy to provide the financing without the warrants. The Buffett deal was like taking candy from a baby and amazingly she even thanked him publicly for it! But you can't blame Warren, if Hollub was arrogant enough to negotiate a deal with Buffett of this magnitude despite her admittedly limited experience in M&A and the Board was misguided enough to rubber stamp it, then one might say in Warren's defense that it was almost his fiduciary duty to Berkshire Hathaway to accept it. Speaking of the Board, where was our Chairman Eugene Batchelder in all of this? Presumably if Batchelder has M&A experience, how could he have permitted this giveaway of \$1.2 billion of shareholder funds? More importantly how could he, the leader of the Board, have sanctioned this whole Anadarko deal which was done in such feverish haste? We have our theories about why he did it, but hopefully more facts will be learned from our Section 220 demand to inspect the Company's books and records which should shed more light on this matter and others at OXY.

Before the Anadarko acquisition, the Company had committed that it would maintain a prudent balance sheet and not take undue risks, but then blatantly broke this commitment by acquiring Anadarko. Perhaps even more egregious, in order to make this acquisition, in <u>an absolute abrogation of good corporate governance, OXY's Board, led by Eugene Batchelder, in my view</u> <u>intentionally restructured the Anadarko deal to avoid a stockholder vote which they knew they would not obtain.</u> Hollub and Batchelder implied that they did all this because they know what's best for shareholders when in fact we believe just the opposite is true. In my mind, the Anadarko acquisition is an attempt to create a de facto poison pill to ensure OXY remains a standalone company, thus ensuring Hollub and Batchelder keep their jobs, power, and lucrative compensation. I do believe that Hollub and Batchelder know what's good for them and their personal agendas but do not particularly care what's good for shareholders. The surrounding facts raise the disturbing possibility that, with OXY weakened and doing poorly, Hollub and Batchelder were fearful there would be a bid for the company which shareholders would accept. If that is correct then it would be logical to conclude that this fear made Hollub and Batchelder willing to go to any lengths, including this value destroying transaction, in order to keep their positions of power. Unfortunately, when it comes to Occidental, accountability is severely lacking. That is why Hollub and Batchelder are quintessential examples of a CEO and Chairman that think they can get away with anything. For example, since OXY's value has deteriorated by over \$18 billion since she took over, you would think Hollub would be working 20-hour days to turn the ship around. However, Hollub seems to have the time to serve on at least six outside boards and advisory committees. This might be tolerable if OXY were outperforming but that certainly is not the case. Another example is the egregious salary Hollub and Batchelder earn with virtually no accountability or supervision. Over the last few years it appears to me that the Board has rubber stamped any actions that Hollub and Batchelder propose no matter how problematic and risky. I therefore can now understand why they appear to be so afraid to allow us to get representation on this Board.

Something Must be Done and Done Quickly;

The Way Forward

Unfortunately, we recognize that the Anadarko deal and the off-market financing arrangements that enabled it cannot be undone. We know that, in a few months, we will own a highly-levered combined company that will be in immediate need of a strong board and good, thoughtful decision-making that prioritizes stockholder value; a board with at least four members that understand they serve on behalf of the stockholders, not the CEO; and that can and will stand up to management when necessary. In our opinion, Occidental's Board, the same Board that stood by and allowed a CEO to agree to an expensive transformational merger without regard for stockholder rights and that knowingly modified a deal structure, at great cost, to avoid a stockholder vote, <u>will not</u>, and <u>cannot</u>, provide the type of strong leadership required at this time. Under the circumstances, we believe Hollub and Occidental's Board must be held accountable, and new directors must be added, if only to ensure the operating success and balance sheet management that will be required to achieve the Board and management's stated goals for the Anadarko transaction. To us, it's obvious that the future of Occidental and your investment depends on these changes. One example is if the price of oil decreases meaningfully there must be new members of the Board to oppose another value-debilitating transaction made by a panicked board whose leaders serve more than one agenda.

We have commenced the process to remove and replace directors. It will be a long and expensive process for us, which is fine, insofar as we are concerned. But what is not fine, is how difficult this Board is making it for you to simply "cast your vote." **Occidental's corporate governance regime empowers and entrenches management and the Board at the expense of stockholder rights. It is anything but stockholder democracy.**

The Company requires us to use a two-step process. First, we must obtain the support of 20% of the outstanding shares to "demand" that the Board set a record date. Once we satisfy that step, we can then solicit stockholders, as of that record date, to support our agenda to remove and replace directors and fix the Company's corporate governance. Unfortunately, for you to support us, the Company requires you to complete a lengthy and intrusive questionnaire, as well as to comply with other cumbersome steps, which undermine your ability to exercise your voting franchise, these encumbrances have no apparent benefits for Occidental or its stockholders and are simply there to dissuade you from voting. Although it will take extra time and effort on your part to comply with the Company's arduous and unnecessary requirements, we implore you to do so. (Detailed information explaining these requirements is included in the Solicitation Statement of the Icahn Participants (the "Icahn Solicitation Statement"), filed with the SEC on July 18, 2019).

YOUR SUPPORT IS IMPORTANT.

FIRST, WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT TO

DEMAND THAT THE COMPANY SET A RECORD DATE FOR

OUR PROPOSED CONSENT SOLICITATION.

SECOND, WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT TO:

REMOVE FOUR OCCIDENTAL DIRECTORS,

ELECT FOUR NEW DIRECTORS TO PROVIDE BOARDROOM OVERSIGHT,

AND

FIX OCCIDENTAL'S BYLAWS TO PROVIDE BASIC STOCKHOLDER RIGHTS.

Please refer to the Icahn Solicitation Statement and follow

the steps necessary to demand that the Company set a

record date for our proposed consent solicitation.

* * *

If you have any questions, please contact:

Harkins Kovler, LLC Banks and Brokers Call: +1 (212) 468-5380 All Others Call Toll-Free: +1 (800) 339-9883 Email: Icahn-OXY@HarkinsKovler.com

Additional Information and Where to Find it; Participants in the Solicitation

CARL C. ICAHN AND THE OTHER PARTICIPANTS IN THE SOLICITATION (TOGETHER, THE "PARTICIPANTS") FILED A DEFINITVE SOLICITATION STATEMENT ON JULY 18, 2019 WITH THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (THE "SEC") TO BE USED TO SOLICIT WRITTEN REQUESTS FOR FIXING A RECORD DATE IN CONNECTION WITH THE PROPOSED ACTIONS BY WRITTEN CONSENT OF THE STOCKHOLDERS OF OCCIDENTAL PETROLEUM CORPORATION ("OCCIDENTAL"). SECURITY HOLDERS ARE ADVISED TO READ THE SOLICITATION STATEMENT AND OTHER DOCUMENTS RELATED TO THE SOLICITATION BECAUSE THEY CONTAIN IMPORTANT INFORMATION, INCLUDING INFORMATION RELATING TO THE PARTICIPANTS IN SUCH SOLICITATION. THESE MATERIALS AND OTHER MATERIALS FILED BY THE PARTICIPANTS WITH THE SEC ARE AVAILABLE AT NO CHARGE AT THE SEC'S WEBSITE AT HTTP://WWW.SEC.GOV. INFORMATION RELATING TO THE PARTICIPANTS IN SUCH SOLICITATION IS CONTAINED IN THE SOLICITATION STATEMENT. EXCEPT THROUGH THE BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SHARES OF COMMON STOCK, PAR VALUE \$0.20 PER SHARE, OF OCCIDENTAL OR AS OTHERWISE DISCLOSED IN THE SOLICITATION STATEMENT, THE PARTICIPANTS HAVE NO INTEREST IN OCCIDENTAL

SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING THIS LETTER:

THIS LETTER CONTAINS OUR CURRENT VIEWS ON THE VALUE OF OCCIDENTAL SECURITIES AND CERTAIN ACTIONS THAT OCCIDENTAL'S BOARD MAY TAKE TO ENHANCE THE VALUE OF ITS SECURITIES. OUR VIEWS ARE BASED ON OUR OWN ANALYSIS OF PUBLICLY AVAILABLE INFORMATION AND ASSUMPTIONS WE BELIEVE TO BE REASONABLE. THERE CAN BE NO ASSURANCE THAT THE INFORMATION WE CONSIDERED AND ANALYZED IS ACCURATE OR COMPLETE. SIMILARLY, THERE CAN BE NO ASSURANCE THAT OUR ASSUMPTIONS ARE CORRECT. OCCIDENTAL'S ACTUAL PERFORMANCE AND RESULTS MAY DIFFER MATERIALLY FROM OUR ASSUMPTIONS AND ANALYSIS.

WE HAVE NOT SOUGHT, NOR HAVE WE RECEIVED, PERMISSION FROM ANY THIRD-PARTY TO INCLUDE THEIR INFORMATION IN THIS LETTER. ANY SUCH INFORMATION SHOULD NOT BE VIEWED AS INDICATING THE SUPPORT OF SUCH THIRD PARTY FOR THE VIEWS EXPRESSED HEREIN.

THIS LETTER ALSO REFERENCES THE SIZE OF OUR RESPECTIVE CURRENT HOLDINGS OF OCCIDENTAL SECURITIES RELATIVE TO OTHER HOLDERS OF SUCH SECURITIES. OUR VIEWS AND OUR HOLDINGS COULD CHANGE AT ANY TIME. WE MAY SELL ANY OR ALL OF OUR HOLDINGS OR INCREASE OUR HOLDINGS BY PURCHASING ADDITIONAL SECURITIES. WE MAY TAKE ANY OF THESE OR OTHER ACTIONS REGARDING OCCIDENTAL WITHOUT UPDATING THIS LETTER OR PROVIDING ANY NOTICE WHATSOEVER OF ANY SUCH CHANGES (EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE REQUIRED BY LAW).

FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS:

Certain statements contained in this letter are forward-looking statements including, but not limited to, statements that are predications of or indicate future events, trends, plans or objectives. Undue reliance should not be placed on such statements because, by their nature, they are subject to known and unknown risks and uncertainties. Forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance or activities and are subject to many risks and uncertainties. Due to such risks and uncertainties, actual events or results or actual performance may differ materially from those reflected or contemplated in such forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements can be identified by the use of the future tense or other forward-looking words such as "believe," "expect," "anticipate," "intend," "plan," "estimate," "should," "may," "will," "objective," "projection," "forecast," "management believes," "continue," "strategy," "position" or the negative of those terms or other variations of them or by comparable terminology.

Important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from the expectations set forth in this letter include, among other things, the factors identified in Occidental's public filings. Such forward-looking statements should therefore be construed in light of such factors, and the Participants are under no obligation, and expressly disclaim any intention or obligation, to update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as required by law.