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## Budget Proposals Follow Energy Influence: Obama Goes After Producers, Sen. Paul Goes After Regulators

Submitted by Owen Poindexter on Monday, Jan 31st, 2011

**Jan. 31, 2011** - In the 2011 State of the Union address, President Barack Obama [proposed eliminating roughly \\$4 billion annually in tax deductions to oil companies](#). Recently elected senator of Kentucky, Republican [Rand Paul](#), has [released a budget proposal](#), which would, among other things, fold the Department of Energy (DOE) into the Department of Defense. The DOE oversees domestic energy production, nuclear materials, and the research and development of energy technologies.

In the past decade, campaign donors connected to the industries that the DOE has jurisdiction over gave millions to both Republicans and Democrats, but directed more than two-thirds of the over \$147 million in contributions to the GOP. Within individual categories of contributors as defined by the [Center for Responsive Politics](#), Republicans outpaced Democrats in all but one, Independent electric power generators, whose contributions accounted for just over 1% of the whole.

Major multinational oil companies, the group targeted by Obama, gave over three-quarters of the \$13.1 million they have contributed to Republicans (\$10.1 million). See below for the full list of interest groups and their contributions. (All of the independent legislators in the examined time period caucused with the Democrats, so their numbers are included in the Democrat totals.)

- Total to all legislators since 2001: \$147,500,187
- Total to all Republican legislators: \$97,547,667
- Total to all Democratic legislators: \$49,952,520

Interest Group	Democrats	Republicans	Total	Dem%	Repub%
Coal mining	\$1,931,134	\$ 6,218,829	\$8,149,963	24%	76%
Electric Power utilities	\$11,016,763	\$15,591,435	\$26,608,198	41%	59%
Energy production & distribution	\$2,640,855	\$4,364,160	\$7,005,015	38%	62%
Energy, Natural Resources and Environment	\$87,330	\$102,300	\$189,630	46%	54%
Fuel oil dealers	\$69,690	\$88,600	\$158,290	44%	56%
Gas & Electric Utilities	\$11,460,690	\$12,636,446	\$24,097,136	48%	52%
Gasoline service stations	\$948,184	\$2,227,424	\$3,175,608	30%	70%
Independent oil & gas producers	\$1,971,674	\$8,865,427	\$10,837,101	18%	82%
Independent power generation & cogeneration	\$1,253,015	\$614,376	\$1,867,391	67%	33%
Major (multinational) oil & gas producers	\$3,000,099	\$10,100,258	\$13,100,357	23%	77%
Natural Gas transmission & distribution	\$2,737,748	\$5,500,562	\$8,238,310	33%	67%
Nuclear energy	\$834,554	\$1,254,965	\$2,089,519	40%	60%
Nuclear plant construction, equipment & svcs	\$919,568	\$1,586,970	\$2,506,538	37%	63%
Oil & Gas	\$2,641,572	\$8,470,101	\$11,111,673	24%	76%
Oilfield service, equipment & exploration	\$1,441,416	\$6,544,639	\$7,986,055	18%	82%
Petroleum refining & marketing	\$2,474,768	\$7,882,114	\$10,356,882	24%	76%
Power plant construction & equipment	\$1,387,282	\$1,669,007	\$3,056,289	45%	55%
Rural electric cooperatives	\$3,136,178	\$3,830,054	\$6,966,232	45%	55%
Total	\$49,952,520	\$97,547,667	\$147,500,187	34%	66%

*Monetary and non-monetary contributions to candidate campaign committees of legislators serving in the 109th, 110th, 111th and 112th Congresses. Includes reported contributions from [Electric Power utilities](#), [Energy production & distribution](#), [Energy, Natural Resources and Environment](#), [Gas & Electric Utilities](#), [Independent power generation & cogeneration](#), [Nuclear energy](#), [Nuclear plant construction, equipment & svcs](#), [Coal mining](#), [Power plant construction & equipment](#), [Major \(multinational\) oil & gas producers](#), [Oil & Gas](#), [Independent oil & gas producers](#), [Gasoline service stations](#), [Petroleum refining & marketing](#), [Natural Gas transmission & distribution](#), [Oilfield service, equipment & exploration](#), [Rural electric cooperatives](#), and [Fuel oil dealers](#), from Jan 1. 2001-Nov. 22, 2010. Contributions data provided by the [Center for Responsive Politics \(OpenSecrets.org\)](#)*

#### About our data



Read the details about our [data sources and methodology](#). Data refers to direct contributions to the campaign committees of elected legislators. For example, contribution totals exclude contributions to party committees such as the RNC or the DNC and exclude contributions made to individuals that did not win their election. For U.S. Congress, contributions data provided by the Center for Responsive Politics ([OpenSecrets.org](#)) and legislative data provided by [GovTrack.us](#). California contributions data provided by the National Institute on Money in State Politics ([FollowTheMoney.org](#)). Wisconsin contributions data provided by the Wisconsin Democracy Campaign ([wisdc.org](#)).

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