



ENERGY COMPANIES BUILD POWER BASE IN STATEHOUSES

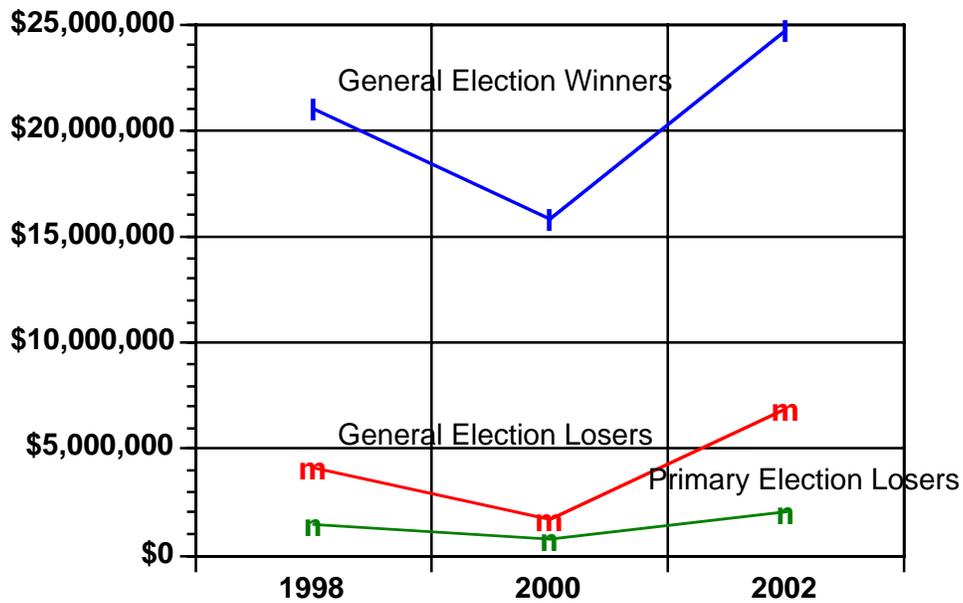
By
EDWIN BENDER
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As the price of oil continues to climb, the effects ripple across the country, affecting everything from the price of clothes that are shipped by truck to Wal-Mart stores to home-heating oil. The effects will force state policy-makers to balance the needs of their voting constituencies with those of their donor constituencies. The influence of the latter goes well beyond the vote totals on Election Day.

The energy industry has put more than \$134.7 million¹ into state-level candidates and party committees in the past decade, according to an analysis of contribution data compiled and posted to the Web by the Institute on Money in State Politics. Almost 70 percent of that money was given to winning and incumbent candidates who decided public-policy issues in the legislative sessions that followed the elections. In 2002 alone, the companies gave \$49.4 million.

The following chart illustrates how strategic political giving by energy companies ensures they will have access to lawmakers in the legislature.

ENERGY-INDUSTRY CONTRIBUTIONS TO STATE CANDIDATES, 1998-2002



The oil and gas industry gave more than \$75.3 million to state-level candidates and party committees in the states and election cycles studied. Electric utilities gave more than \$57 million, while other industries directly related to energy production — such as transmission companies — gave more than \$2.2 million and nuclear energy companies gave \$182,765.

More than 60 percent of the political gifts went to Republicans, 37 percent to Democrats and the rest to third-party or nonpartisan candidates.

¹ This total represents the contributions given by energy interests in all 50 states for the 2000 and 2002 election cycles, a majority of states in the 1998 and 1996 cycles, and back to the 1990 election cycle in Northwestern states.

Candidates in Texas received the most from energy interests, at nearly \$24.3 million. They were followed by candidates in California, at \$16.6 million; Illinois, at \$8.7 million; Florida, at nearly \$7.8 million; and Alaska, at \$4.5 million.

As is the case with most industries interested in access to policy-makers as bills are being drafted, debated and passed, their donations followed power, not political beliefs. The table below shows how a decidedly conservative industry moderates its contributing depending on which party controls the legislature.

ENERGY-INDUSTRY GIVING AND 2004 LEGISLATIVE CONTROL, TOP 20 STATES

STATE	PARTY IN CONTROL	TOTAL	TO REPUBLICANS	%	TO DEMOCRATS	%
California	Democratic	\$4,456,401	\$1,898,675	42.6%	\$2,453,967	55.1%
Illinois	Democratic	\$2,804,734	\$1,568,039	55.9%	\$1,236,695	44.1%
Oklahoma	Democratic	\$2,276,514	\$1,217,304	53.5%	\$1,057,010	46.4%
Alabama	Democratic	\$1,328,272	\$534,481	40.2%	\$792,791	59.7%
Louisiana	Democratic	\$1,173,152	\$696,430	59.4%	\$476,622	40.6%
Mississippi	Democratic	\$1,105,768	\$798,318	72.2%	\$271,000	24.5%
New Mexico	Democratic	\$988,945	\$409,787	41.4%	\$579,158	58.6%
DEMOCRATIC		\$14,133,786	\$7,123,033	50.4%	\$6,867,243	48.6%
Texas	Republican	\$10,915,484	\$8,717,311	79.9%	\$2,187,398	20.0%
Virginia	Republican	\$2,396,039	\$1,438,522	60.0%	\$933,832	39.0%
Florida	Republican	\$2,389,824	\$1,646,374	68.9%	\$743,400	31.1%
Pennsylvania	Republican	\$1,686,211	\$1,098,745	65.2%	\$587,465	34.8%
Michigan	Republican	\$1,251,176	\$847,820	67.8%	\$397,056	31.7%
Ohio	Republican	\$1,088,831	\$919,271	84.4%	\$169,560	15.6%
Colorado	Republican	\$1,038,136	\$872,691	84.1%	\$165,420	15.9%
Alaska	Republican	\$667,163	\$570,183	85.5%	\$95,030	14.2%
Missouri	Republican	\$587,501	\$241,568	41.1%	\$345,933	58.9%
REPUBLICAN		\$22,020,363	\$16,352,484	74.3%	\$5,625,094	25.5%
New York	Split	\$1,404,813	\$1,088,954	77.5%	\$312,574	22.3%
Georgia	Split	\$1,012,998	\$215,258	21.2%	\$796,190	78.6%
North Carolina	Split	\$752,553	\$247,194	32.8%	\$505,360	67.2%
Indiana	Split	\$589,207	\$328,933	55.8%	\$260,274	44.2%
SPLIT CONTROL		\$3,759,572	\$1,880,339	50.0%	\$1,874,398	49.9%

*Dollar totals include contributions to political parties as well as candidates in the 2002 and 2003 election cycles, the closest election to the subsequent 2004 legislative sessions.

In states where Democrats control the legislature or control is split, the contributions are split evenly. But in states where the legislatures are controlled by Republicans, an overwhelming amount of the money is given to GOP candidates and party committees. Appendix 1 takes an even more focused look at the power analysis.

Of the top-contributing energy companies at the state level, most were active in numerous campaigns across state lines. Many companies blanketed more than half the states in the country with political gifts. The table on the following page shows some of the major energy companies, the number of states in which they contributed, and the amount they gave in each state.

CONTRIBUTING BY MAJOR POWER COMPANIES, 1990-2004

COMPANY	STATES	TOTAL
CHEVRON/ TEXACO	28 STATES AK \$48,150; AL \$26,700; CA \$2,384,867; CO \$29,250; DE \$5,100; FL \$74,350; GA \$76,450; HI \$71,647; ID \$37,950; KS \$7,250; KY \$1,000; LA \$145,100; MD \$1,300; MO \$2,700; MS \$44,600; MT \$2,000; NJ \$1,400; NM \$107,070; NV \$27,300; NY \$25,050; OK \$6,800; OR \$148,950; SC \$2,300; TX \$156,467; UT \$63,900; VA \$325; WA \$264,650; WY \$69,625	\$3,832,251
PACIFIC GAS & ELECTRIC/PG&E	17 STATES AZ \$850; CA \$2,533,555; DE \$2,500; FL \$6,000; ID \$15,950; IL \$4,050; MI \$17,900; MO \$30,500; NH \$250; NM \$2,000; NY \$48,970; OR \$63,822; PA \$10,675; TX \$92,200; VT \$1,700; WA \$48,350; WI \$9,363	\$2,888,635
BP AMOCO	34 STATES AK \$346,580; AL \$28,950; AZ \$500; CA \$465,612; CO \$43,700; FL \$30,700; GA \$248,750; IA \$17,143; IL \$293,648; IN \$89,409; KS \$50,550; KY \$400; LA \$71,175; MD \$8,850; MI \$46,750; MO \$19,800; MS \$6,500; NC \$11,750; ND \$3,500; NM \$49,250; NV \$35,350; NY \$11,800; OH \$244,100; OK \$40,550; OR \$35,475; PA \$12,350; SC \$51,654; TN \$6,855; TX \$170,500; UT \$38,125; VA \$24,450; WA \$161,875; WI \$25,700; WY \$81,800	\$2,774,101
ATLANTIC RICHFIELD/ARCO	15 STATES AK \$386,129; CA \$921,365; FL \$5,000; GA \$525; KS \$850; MD \$5,850; NJ \$1,750; NM \$6,770; NV \$191,950; NY \$20,200; OR \$297,916; PA \$6,400; TX \$62,600; WA \$792,416; WY \$17,825	\$2,717,642
FLORIDA POWER & LIGHT	6 STATES FL \$2,486,937; IL \$10,000; ME \$1,000; NH \$3,000; OK \$1,000; VA \$1,000	\$2,502,937
DOMINION POWER	11 STATES CT \$750; IL \$250; KY \$1,000; LA \$6,750; NC \$98,450; NY \$12,600; OH \$91,150; OK \$14,000; PA \$97,436; VA \$1,259,892; WV \$44,650	\$1,626,928

DUKE ENERGY	29 STATES	\$1,598,694
AL \$2,750; AR \$5,809; AZ \$7,470; CA \$308,445; CO \$24,625; CT \$2,000; FL \$71,650; GA \$5,500; IL \$5,800; IN \$11,800; KS \$38,200; KY \$3,000; LA \$32,000; MD \$12,500; ME \$11,075; MO \$12,495; MS \$20,150; NC \$512,800; NH \$100; NM \$11,750; NV \$35,000; NY \$1,500; OH \$14,500; OK \$82,800; PA \$16,125; SC \$186,750; TN \$17,200; TX \$88,900; VA \$56,000		
ENRON CORP.	31 STATES	\$1,558,663
AR \$500; CA \$476,255; CT \$4,500; FL \$356,300; GA \$1,500; IA \$14,610; IL \$24,750; IN \$25,256; KS \$12,800; KY \$1,000; LA \$11,751; MD \$13,750; ME \$700; MI \$58,975; MO \$23,798; MT \$200; NC \$1,500; NH \$600; NJ \$115,250; NM \$3,950; NV \$73,000; NY \$9,325; OH \$64,775; OK \$6,100; OR \$1,000; PA \$14,650; SD \$1,500; TX \$233,476; WA \$5,600; WV \$1,000; WY \$500		
EXXON MOBIL	20 STATES	\$1,439,472
AK \$237,158; AL \$145,950; AR \$4,750; CA \$256,875; CO \$21,400; CT \$250; DE \$4,100; FL \$44,000; GA \$28,000; IL \$116,522; KS \$22,900; LA \$116,600; MD \$6,325; MO \$3,000; MS \$4,500; NY \$18,117; SC \$21,825; TX \$167,550; VA \$141,300; WY \$78,350		
KOCH INDUSTRIES	23 STATES	\$1,238,815
AL \$500; AR \$2,000; CA \$12,000; CO \$6,000; FL \$6,500; GA \$6,250; IL \$2,500; IN \$15,000; KS \$275,500; KY \$1,000; LA \$39,150; MN \$1,762; MO \$3,350; MS \$1,350; MT \$15,000; NE \$10,000; NJ \$250; NM \$5,000; NY \$439,396; OK \$66,025; SC \$1,000; TX \$310,307; VA \$18,975		

APPENDIX 1

CONTRIBUTIONS TO LEGISLATIVE CANDIDATES ONLY

ENERGY-INDUSTRYGIVING AND 2004 LEGISLATIVE CONTROL, TOP 20 STATES

STATE	PARTY IN CONTROL	TOTAL	TO REPUBLICANS	%	TO DEMOCRATS	%
Illinois	Democratic	\$1,570,741	\$795,399	50.6%	\$775,342	49.4%
Alabama	Democratic	\$967,770	\$323,920	33.5%	\$642,850	66.4%
Oklahoma	Democratic	\$922,558	\$330,163	35.8%	\$592,095	64.2%
California	Democratic	\$640,532	\$285,471	44.6%	\$355,061	55.4%
Louisiana	Democratic	\$409,363	\$163,741	40.0%	\$245,522	60.0%
Mississippi	Democratic	\$344,400	\$199,900	58.0%	\$143,750	41.7%
DEMOCRATIC		\$4,855,364	\$2,098,594	43.2%	\$2,754,620	56.7%
Texas	Republican	\$3,040,733	\$1,998,147	65.7%	\$1,039,086	34.2%
Virginia	Republican	\$1,229,844	\$840,820	68.4%	\$375,838	30.6%
Florida	Republican	\$742,855	\$521,005	70.1%	\$221,850	29.9%
Michigan	Republican	\$615,580	\$429,820	69.8%	\$185,761	30.2%
Ohio	Republican	\$598,338	\$489,804	81.9%	\$108,535	18.1%
Alaska	Republican	\$444,511	\$386,676	87.0%	\$55,885	12.6%
Pennsylvania	Republican	\$368,575	\$269,460	73.1%	\$99,115	26.9%
Oregon	Republican	\$295,706	\$190,960	64.6%	\$104,396	35.3%
Missouri	Republican	\$285,540	\$181,507	63.6%	\$104,033	36.4%
Colorado	Republican	\$263,065	\$206,745	78.6%	\$56,320	21.4%
REPUBLICAN		\$7,884,748	\$5,514,944	69.9%	\$2,350,818	29.8%
North Carolina	Split	\$688,167	\$225,844	32.8%	\$462,324	67.2%
Indiana	Split	\$390,887	\$237,844	60.8%	\$153,043	39.2%
Washington	Split	\$335,471	\$215,441	64.2%	\$120,030	35.8%
Georgia	Split	\$299,276	\$92,951	31.1%	\$205,575	68.7%
SPLIT CONTROL		\$1,713,801	\$772,080	45.1%	\$940,972	54.9%

When contributions to party committees and other candidates are excluded, the percentages shift dramatically, further emphasizing the point that money follows power in the statehouses. In states where Democrats control the legislature, they receive the majority of the contributions, by just over 13 percentage points. In states where Republicans control the legislature, they received the most, by 40 percentage points. And in states where control is split, the dollars seem to favor Democrats in two states and Republicans in two states.

Contributions to party committees, included in the chart on page 3, are often used as a back-door way of supporting the favored party where the less-favored party is in power. Party committees also are used to launder money from contributors from whom candidates may hesitate to take money, such as the tobacco industry.