

BIG OIL SPENT \$450 MILLION TO INFLUENCE TRUMP & THE 119TH CONGRESS

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Donald Trump's alliance with the fossil fuel industry is well-documented, from [nominating oil executives](#) for cabinet positions to [raising prices](#) for American consumers to bail out the fossil fuel industry.

And now we know what Big Oil was willing to pay to see Trump's threats become reality: **Big Oil's total financial influence this election cycle amounts to an astounding \$445 million.** Importantly, however, the oil and gas industry also routes undisclosed funds through [dark money groups](#) that [do not have to reveal their donors](#), making it nearly impossible to understand the full scope of their impact.

\$96 MILLION TO SUPPORT TRUMP

Fossil fuel interests spent **\$96 million** in direct donations to support Donald Trump's presidential campaign between January 2023 and November 2024.

At [closed-door meetings](#) at Mar-a-Lago and swanky industry [fundraisers](#), Trump made wooing the industry a top campaign priority—and it worked. Oil billionaires like Continental Resources' Harold Hamm, Energy Transfer Partners' Kelcy Warren, and Hilcorp Energy Co.'s Jeffrey Hildebrand gave millions to his campaign and affiliated PACs.

\$243 MILLION ON LOBBYING

In the 2024 campaign, Big Oil spent **\$243 million** lobbying Congress, an investment likely to pay dividends when the Senate votes on Trump's cabinet appointments and as budget and legislative priorities are set.

“Energy Czar” and Department of the Interior nominee Doug Burgum helped Donald Trump deepen his oil and gas donor Rolodex. Trump named fracking evangelist and fossil fuel company CEO Chris Wright to lead the Department of Energy and Lee Zeldin, who accepted more than \$400,000 in Big Oil campaign contributions to lead the Environmental Protection Agency.

Nearly \$80 MILLION ON ADVERTISING

Big Oil also spent an additional nearly **\$80 million** on advertising supporting Trump and other Republicans or policy positions supported by their campaigns. Organizations like the American Petroleum Institute, the Western States Petroleum Association, and the American Fuel and Petrochemical Manufacturers Association PAC ran ads criticizing electric vehicles, energy prices, and home appliance standards.

MORE THAN \$25 MILLION TO GOP DOWN-BALLOT RACES

Big Oil heavily targeted GOP congressional and gubernatorial candidates, focusing on maintaining and expanding their influence in the House and Senate and governors' mansions across the country.

In the 2024 cycle, fossil fuel interests gave **\$16.3 million** to Republican House races, **\$8.2 million** to Republican Senate races, and **\$559,049** to GOP Governors.

CONCLUSION

Trump's close ties to oil and gas executives and his willingness to prioritize their agenda underscore the relationship between his political ambitions and Big Oil's financial goals.

As he enters his second term, Trump has promised to implement an oil and gas industry wishlist—a wishlist that will undercut competition from clean energy, raise utility bills for families, and send hundreds of thousands of good-paying clean energy jobs to China.

While Trump has deceptively claimed he is declaring an “emergency” to produce more energy and lower costs, his first actions actually aim to crush some of America's most abundant energy supplies—because his agenda is geared toward maximizing oil industry profits rather than American energy production. The only way for the U.S. to truly become a global energy superpower is to free ourselves from Big Oil's grip and invest in the clean energy of the future.

FOSSIL FUEL DONATIONS	
Trump Donations	\$96,178,684
Big Oil Ad Spend	\$79,941,109
GOP House Members	\$14,959,475
Incoming House	\$1,048,020
House Challengers	\$464,284
GOP Senators	\$5,047,643
Incoming Senators	\$2,252,989
Senate Challengers	\$927,984
GOP Governors	\$559,049
Lobbying	\$243,180,146
Total	\$444,559,383