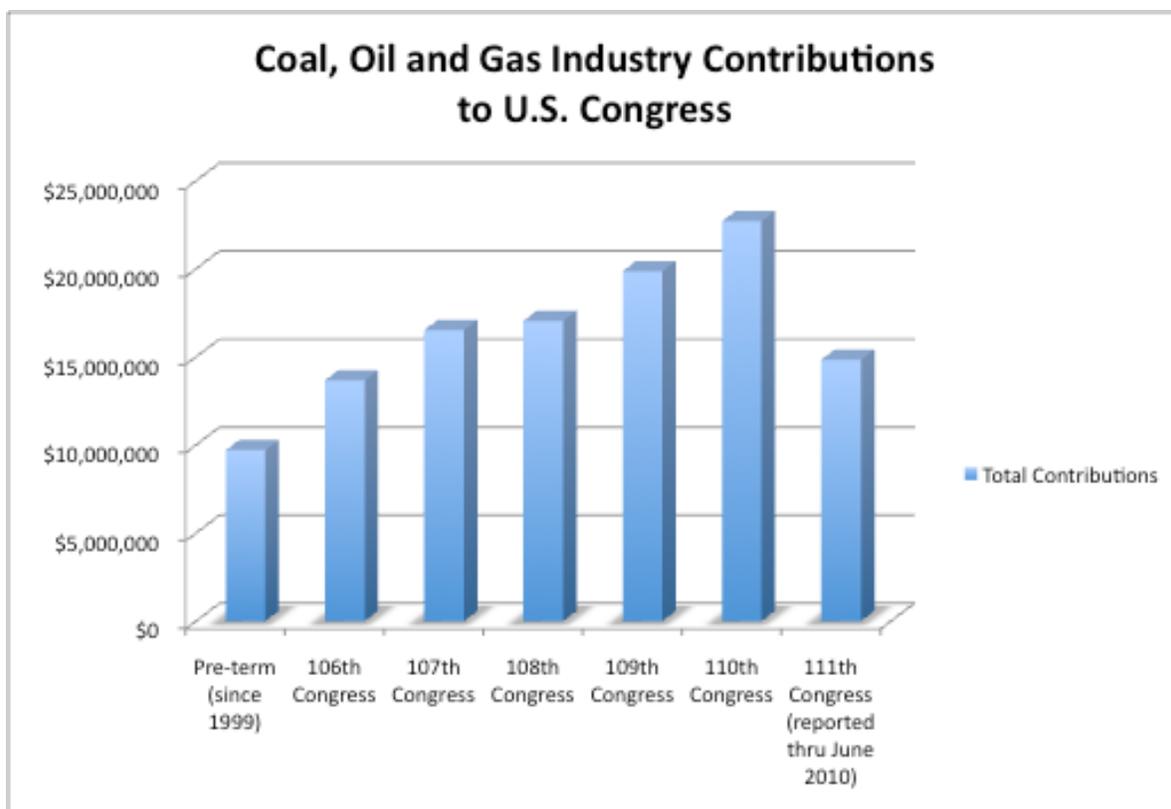




August 10, 2010

Dirty Energy Money Abounds in 111th Congress

Members of the 111th U.S. Congress have reported taking over \$14.8 million from the oil, gas and coal industries through June 22, 2010. Contributions are expected to continue to grow through the end of the year as election season approaches, with this Congress on track to be one of, if not the, dirtiest yet. Since 1999, the oil, gas and coal industries have given over \$114 million in contributions to members of Congress. This increased funding from the dirty energy industry follows a troubling trend of increased corporate influence overall in U.S. politics.



Six Elected Officials at Over \$1,000,000 in Dirty Energy Money Since 1999

Six current elected officials have taken more than \$1,000,000 in coal, oil and gas industry money since 1999. Senator John Cornyn (R-TX) tops the lifetime list at \$1,863,310 in dirty energy industry contributions. Also receiving over \$1,000,000 in dirty energy money are: Representative Joe Barton (R-TX) at \$1,707,173; Senator Mitch McConnell (R-KY) at \$1,147,558; Senator Jim Inhofe (R-OK) at \$1,123,006; Representative Rick Boucher (D-VA) at \$1,094,811; and Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison (R-TX) at \$1,004,514.

Seven Elected Officials at Over \$200,000 in Dirty Energy Money So Far in 111th

With half a year remaining, including several months pre-election, four Senators and three Congressmen have already taken over \$200,000 in oil, gas, and coal money during the 111th Congress. Senator Blanche Lincoln (D-AR) tops the list with over \$510,000 in contributions, followed by Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-AK); Sen. David Vitter (R-LA); Rep. Rick Boucher (D-VA); Rep. Roy Blunt (R-MO); Sen. Richard Burr (R-NC); and Rep. Joe Barton (R-TX).

111th Senate Top Ten Dirty Energy Recipients

		Coal	Oil and Gas	Total Dirty Energy Money
1	Blanche Lincoln (D-AR)	\$148,350	\$361,800	\$510,150
2	Lisa Murkowski (R-AK)	\$172,896	\$217,726	\$390,622
3	David Vitter (R-LA)	\$53,978	\$262,300	\$316,278
4	Richard Burr (R-NC)	\$144,574	\$101,200	\$245,774
5	Arlen Specter (D-PA)	\$55,899	\$129,900	\$185,799
6	Robert Bennett (R-UT)	\$39,250	\$142,800	\$182,050
7	John Thune (R-SD)	\$64,334	\$99,540	\$163,874
8	Byron Dorgan (D-ND)	\$64,861	\$93,950	\$158,811
9	John McCain (R-AZ)	\$112,300	\$38,110	\$150,410
10	Evan Bayh (D-IN)	\$77,449	\$67,550	\$144,999

111th House Top Ten Dirty Energy Recipients

		Coal	Oil and Gas	Total Dirty Energy Money
1	Rick Boucher (D-VA)	\$264,600	\$36,000	\$300,600
2	Roy Blunt (R-MO)	\$102,250	\$146,000	\$248,250
3	Joe Barton (R-TX)	\$113,490	\$112,620	\$226,110
4	Steny Hoyer (D-MD)	\$137,000	\$48,500	\$185,500
5	Dan Boren (D-OK)	\$22,400	\$160,450	\$182,850
6	Chet Edwards (D-TX)	\$37,500	\$131,630	\$169,130
7	John Boehner (R-OH)	\$107,150	\$55,800	\$162,950
8	Eric Cantor (R-VA)	\$59,300	\$82,450	\$141,750
9	Mike Ross (D-AR)	\$38,000	\$86,950	\$124,950
10	Michael Conaway (R-TX)	\$2,000	\$117,950	\$119,950

Democrats Taking More Coal Money Overall in 111th

Overall, the coal industry has been friendlier to the Democrats than Republicans in the 111th Congress, with over \$3.7 million going to Democratic members of the House and Senate, compared with about \$2.8 million to Republicans. Republicans, however, continued to take more oil and gas money, with the oil and gas industry contributing over \$5.1 million to Republicans and \$3.1 to Democrats.

Overall Coal, Oil and Gas Contributions to 111th Congress¹

	Coal	Oil	Total Dirty Energy
Democrats	\$3,735,275	\$3,138,107	\$6,873,382
Republicans	\$2,824,294	\$5,132,764	\$7,957,058
Total 111th	\$6,559,569	\$8,270,871	\$14,830,440

¹ Figures for the 111th Congress in this fact sheet do not include those members of the 111th Congress who are no longer serving and therefore the totals may vary slightly from some of the figures at www.dirtyenergymoney.com.

Average Coal, Oil and Gas Contributions to 111th Congress

On average, Republicans in the House and the Senate take more money than their Democrat counterparts, for coal, oil and overall dirty energy money. The coal industry's influence, in the House in particular, seems to have less regard for party politics, with the average for Democrats and Republicans being close to equal.

Average Dirty Energy Contributions per Senator in the 111th Senate

	Coal	Oil and Gas	All Dirty Energy
Republicans	\$22,195	\$38,972	\$61,167
Democrats & Independents	\$15,883	\$22,548	\$38,430
Senate Average	\$18,471	\$29,282	\$47,753

Average Dirty Energy Contributions per Member in the 111th House

	Coal	Oil and Gas	All Dirty Energy
Republicans	\$10,754	\$19,859	\$30,613
Democrats	\$10,721	\$6,926	\$17,647
House Average	\$10,735	\$12,170	\$22,905

Ten Dirty Energy Corporations at Over \$2,000,000 in Contributions Since 1999

The top ten contributing corporate entities – including four oil and gas companies and six companies heavily invested in coal – have contributed over \$2,000,000 since 1999. Koch Industries and Southern Co. top the charts with over \$4 million each in campaign contributions. Exxon Mobil is not far behind with \$3.9 million. American Electric Power, Valero Energy, Chevron, Dominion Resources, Edison International, Duke Energy and Entergy Corp have all contributed more than \$2 million since 1999.

	Corporation	Industry	Amount Contributed Since 1999
1	Koch Industries	Oil and Gas	\$4,548,051
2	Southern Co	Coal	\$4,057,724
3	Exxon Mobil	Oil and Gas	\$3,947,840
4	American Electric Power	Coal	\$2,724,662
5	Valero Energy	Oil and Gas	\$2,477,100
6	Chevron Corp	Oil and Gas	\$2,460,946
7	Dominion Resources	Coal	\$2,441,616
8	Edison International	Coal	\$2,312,119
9	Duke Energy	Coal	\$2,290,776
10	Entergy Corp	Coal	\$2,165,403

The same group of companies continues to give strongly in the 111th Congress. Already, American Electric Power has given over \$500,000 to Senators and Representatives during the 111th. Southern Co, Koch Industries, Dominion Resources, and Exxon Mobil have given over \$400,000 each, while Duke Energy, Chevron Corp, Valero Energy and Edison International have all given over \$300,000 this Congress.

Overall to date, 56% of corporate dirty energy contributions to the 111th Congress have been from the oil industry, 44% from coal.

Recent Energy Votes Appear Influenced by Dirty Energy Money

The influence of the industry shows in recent energy votes in both the Senate and the House, where members voting against clean energy options are receiving significantly more money from the dirty energy industries.

Murkowski Resolution. On June 10, S.J.Res.26, a resolution sponsored by Senator Murkowski that would have weakened the Clean Air Act and blocked new fuel economy standards, was narrowly defeated, 53 to 47.

Senators voting in favor of the resolution have taken on average twice as much coal money and nearly three times as much oil money as those who voted against it.

S.J.Res.26	Coal	Oil and Gas	Combined
Average received by those voting 'Nay'	\$12,257	\$15,193	\$27,451
Average received by those voting 'Yea'	\$25,478	\$45,168	\$70,646

Sanders Amendment. On June 15, Senators voted on Senator Sanders' Senate Amendment 4318 to Senate Amendment 4301 to H.R. 4213 (American Workers, State, and Business Relief Act of 2010), which would have amended "the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to eliminate big oil and gas company tax loopholes, and to use the resulting increase in revenues to reduce the deficit and to invest in energy efficiency and conservation. The amendment lost 35 to 61, with 4 Senators not voting.

Senators who voted against the amendment have taken 3.25 times more oil and gas money in the 111th Congress than those who voted for the amendment.

S.Amdt. 4318 to S.Amdt. 4301	Coal	Oil and Gas	Combined
Average received by those voting 'Nay'	\$24,124	\$40,459	\$64,583
Average received by those voting 'Yea'	\$10,672	\$12,432	\$23,105

CLEAR Act. On July 30, the House passed H.R. 3534, the Consolidated Land, Energy, and Aquatic Resources 'CLEAR' Act of 2009, 209 - 193, with 1 Present. Among other actions, the CLEAR Act modifies oil and gas industry regulations, including removing the liability cap for oil spills.

Those Representatives voting against the CLEAR Act have taken nearly *five* times the amount of oil and gas money on average in the 111th than those voting for the Act.

H.R. 3534	Coal	Oil and Gas	Combined
Average received by those voting 'Nay'	\$13,121	\$20,576	\$33,697
Average received by those voting 'Yea'	\$8,788	\$4,200	\$12,989

Additional analysis of trends in dirty energy money is forthcoming from Oil Change International. Individual users are also encouraged to download the .csv files available and analyze the data themselves at www.dirtyenergymoney.com.