

LOBBY WATCH



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Tilting at Windmills:

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In Old Green Deal, Oil & Gas Industry Is Top Funder of Abbott's Political Power Grid

Texas Gov. Greg Abbott energized armies of fact checkers by [blaming](#) renewable energy for Texas' colossal power failures on Fox News Tuesday night. "This shows how the Green New Deal would be a deadly deal for the United States of America," Abbott told Sean Hannity. "It just shows that fossil fuel is necessary for the state of Texas, as well as other states, to make sure that we will be able to heat our homes in the wintertime and cool our homes in the summertime."

Fossil fuels happen to be the main source powering Abbott's political campaign, which receives limited

support from renewable energy specialists.

Gov. Abbott was last reelected in 2018.¹ Between January 2017 and year-end 2020, Abbott raised \$87.3 million. The oil and gas industry was his top supporter, giving him \$16.5 million—or 19 percent of his total. Meanwhile, electric power interests—which did a lot of seizing up and hibernating during the recent deep freeze—gave Abbott more than \$1 million more. Of that amount, an insulting \$60,521 came from those exclusively focused on renewable energy sources (in **bold** below).² Was this wind energy's *real sin*?

Abbott's Top Electricity Contributors, Jan. 2017 Through Dec. 2020

Amount	Contributor (Affiliation)	City
\$250,000	Robert & Janice McNair (Cogen Tech/Houston Texans)	Houston
\$205,000	Erle Allen & Lauri Nye Jr (Oncor Electric Delivery)	Dallas
\$200,000	Oncor Electric Delivery Co	Dallas
\$60,000	American Electric Power Co.	Columbus OH
\$58,000	Erle Allen & Alice Nye Sr (EN Consulting/TXU)	Dallas
\$55,000	Energy Leaders PAC	Irving
\$40,000	Exelon Corp	Chicago IL
\$31,000	CenterPoint Energy Inc	Houston
\$30,521	Neil & Amy Leibman (Gexa Energy LP)	Houston
\$30,000	NRG Energy Inc	Princeton NJ
\$27,500	Jere William Thompson Jr (Ambit Energy)	Dallas
\$25,000	Abraham Issa (EnviroSolar Power)	Fort Worth
\$10,000	Matthew O Henry (Oncor Electric Delivery)	Dallas
\$10,000	Walter Mark Carpenter (Oncor Electric Delivery)	Irving
\$10,000	NextEra Energy Resources	Juno Beach FL
\$7,500	Jim & Stella Greer (Oncor Electric Delivery)	Keller

Abbott's Top Oil & Gas Contributors, Jan. 2017 Through Dec. 2020

Amount	Contributor (Affiliation)	City
\$2,569,733	Syed Javaid & Vicky L Anwar (Midland Energy Inc)	Midland
\$1,005,944	Ray L & Nancy Ann Hunt (Hunt Consolidated)	Dallas
\$1,000,000	Kelcy L & Amy Warren (Energy Transfer Partners)	Dallas
\$915,059	Paul L Foster (Western Refining Co)	El Paso
\$855,000	Jay C & April L Graham (Spur Energy Partners)	Houston
\$800,000	Hushang & Shahla Ansary (Stewart & Stevenson)	Houston
\$528,099	Jeffery D & Mindy Hildebrand (Hilcorp Energy Co)	Houston
\$475,000	Bobby Patton Jr (TX Capitalization Resource Group)	Fort Worth
\$400,000	William E & Louree Greehey (NuStar Energy)	San Antonio
\$309,440	Stuart West & Eliza Stedman (Stedman West Interests)	Houston
\$294,982	David C Baggett (Opportune, LLP)	Houston
\$275,000	Richard & Nancy Kinder (Kinder Morgan Energy)	Houston
\$250,000	Timothy A & Amy Leach (Concho Resources)	Midland
\$239,825	Allan P & Belinda Bloxsom (Fort Apache Energy)	Boerne
\$214,109	Sam J & Lydia Susser (Susser Holdings/Stripes)	Corpus Christi
\$213,112	Clifton L & Cathy Thomas (C L Thomas/Speedy Stop)	Victoria
\$202,000	Betty Ann Stedman (Stedman West Interests)	Houston
\$175,000	Robert C & Fallon Vaughn (Vaughn Petroleum)	Dallas
\$163,010	W Dan & Jennifer Hord III (HEDLOC Investment Co)	Midland
\$153,982	Ruben S & Sue Martin (Martin Resource Mgmt)	Kilgore
\$152,750	Ardon E & Iris Moore III (Lee M Bass)	Fort Worth
\$150,000	Ben 'Bud' & Anne Brigham (Anthem Ventures)	Austin
\$135,553	Mickey L & Rhonda Renee Long (Westex Well Services)	Midland
\$130,000	Ray C & Linda Davis (Energy Transfer Partners)	Dallas
\$125,250	Stephen & Patricia Chazen (Magnolia Oil & Gas)	Bellaire
\$117,777	Christopher & Andrea Tirey (Westtex WLP Well Service)	Midland
\$116,668	Brad & Amy King (Westtex WLP Well Service)	Midland
\$115,064	Jerry' & Gene Jones (Arkoma Production/Dallas Cowboys)	Irving
\$112,500	PSEL PAC (Bass brothers)	Fort Worth
\$112,500	Good Government Fund (Bass brothers)	Fort Worth
\$103,000	Michael Graham & Rieke Radler (Tug Hill Co)	Fort Worth
\$100,000	Al G Hill Jr (AG Hill Partners)	Dallas
\$100,000	C Jim & Carole Walter Looke (Walter Oil & Gas Co)	Houston
\$100,000	Enterprise Products Partners PAC	Houston
\$100,000	Valero Energy Corp	San Antonio

¹ He beat Democrat Lupe Valdez 56 percent to 43 percent.

² San Francisco-based Pattern Energy Group gave Abbott another \$500 in renewable money.