

LOBBY WATCH



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Fracking Liquidity:

May 3, 2011

Tax-Dodging Gas Producers Gave Politicos \$2 Million

Texas politicians have shown little interest in rescinding a multi-billion-dollar tax break for natural gas producers in a time of urgent need. It clarifies *whose needs* take precedence.

The tax exemption allowed gas producers to dodge more than \$1.5 billion in taxes during the two-year 2010 election cycle.¹ During that same period Texas politicians collected \$1.5 million from the PACs and executives of Texas' top natural gas giants. The Texas Oil and Gas PAC doled out \$483,723 more, pushing the political payout to \$2 million.

Clearly the gas-tax exemption helps the folks who matter most: energy giants and politicians. Gas giants gave the most to Governor Rick Perry, even as they heavily backed gubernatorial challengers Bill White and Kay Bailey Hutchison.

They dug deep for Lieutenant Governor David Dewhurst and Speaker Joe Straus. And they curried favor with the Railroad Commissioners who are supposed to regulate them. They bankrolled Attorney General Greg Abbott and the Texas Supreme Court. And few corners of the Legislature escaped the frackers' reach.

Texas' Top Gas Producers in 2010

Rank	Gas Company	Gas Production In 2010 (BCF)	Affiliated Donations 2009-2010
1	XTO Energy (Part of Exxon)	704,584	\$29,500
2	Devon Energy Production	644,906	\$89,250
3	Chesapeake Operating, Inc.	549,625	\$174,821
4	EOG Resources, Inc.	322,192	\$13,900
5	EnCana Oil & Gas, Inc.	224,503	\$0
6	Samson Lone Star, LLC	143,329	\$5,518
7	ConocoPhillips Co.	142,416	\$174,150
8	SandRidge Expl. & Prod.	125,913	\$0
9	Quicksilver Resources, Inc.	124,336	\$134,500
10	Anadarko Expl. & Prod.	121,937	(See next box)
11	Anadarko Petroleum Corp.	100,939	\$188,309
12	Exxon Mobil Corp.	95,026	\$329,436
13	Chevron USA, Inc.	93,365	\$12,650
14	Forest Oil Corp.	92,996	\$0
15	Shell Western Exp. & Prod	90,714	\$36,450
16	BP America Production Co.	79,771	\$73,250
17	Apache Corp.	75,552	\$50,800
18	El Paso Exploration & Prod.	70,956	\$32,750
19	Burlington Resources	66,594	\$2,275
20	Cimarex Energy Co.	65,956	\$0
21	EnerVest Operating, LLC	65,584	\$105,000
22	Highmount Expl. & Prod.	63,950	\$0
23	Range Production Co.	63,262	\$2,000
24	Pioneer Natural Resources	57,881	\$0
25	Newfield Exploration Co.	57,245	\$0
26	Carrizo Oil & Gas, Inc.	48,854	\$15,000
27	Southwestern Energy Prod.	47,737	\$0
28	Mobil Producing	43,229	\$15,880
29	Cabot Oil & Gas Corp.	40,477	\$0
30	Williams Prod. Gulf Coast	38,476	\$22,000
31	Comstock Oil & Gas, LP	36,587	\$0
32	Ballard Exploration Co.	36,552	\$10,750
TOTALS:		4,535,444	\$1,518,189

**Top Recipients of Money From Top Texas Gas Producers
(Jan. 2009 Through Dec. 2010)**

Amount	Recipient	Party	Office	Favorite Gas-Giant Contributor(s)
\$281,459	Rick Perry	R	Governor	Ret. Exxon Pres. Morris Foster
\$189,550	Bill White*	D	Governor	Quicksilver Chair James Finley
\$120,806	David Dewhurst	R	Lt. Governor	TX Oil & Gas PAC
\$90,500	Kay B. Hutchison*	R	Governor	EnerVest CEO John Walker
\$59,225	Greg Abbott	R	Attorney Gen'l	ExxonMobil/TX Oil & Gas PAC
\$48,462	Joe Straus	R	H-121	TX Oil & Gas PAC
\$46,000	Victor Carrillo*	R	Railroad Com.	TX Oil & Gas PAC
\$35,900	Bob Deuell	R	S-2	TX Oil & Gas PAC
\$29,750	Susan Combs	R	Comptroller	TX Oil & Gas PAC
\$26,000	David Porter	R	Railroad Com.	TX Oil & Gas PAC
\$25,000	Wendy Davis	D	S-10	Quicksilver Chair James Finley
\$24,400	Glenn Hegar	R	S-18	Exxon PAC
\$24,000	Charlie Geren	R	H-99	TX Oil & Gas PAC
\$21,750	Jerry Patterson	R	Land Com.	TX Oil & Gas PAC
\$20,950	Jeff Weems*	D	Railroad Com.	Quicksilver Chair James Finley
\$20,800	Steve Ogden	R	S-5	TX Oil & Gas PAC
\$19,250	Eva Guzman	R	Supreme Court	TX Oil & Gas PAC
\$18,250	Chuck Hopson	R	H-11	TX Oil & Gas PAC
\$17,250	Todd Hunter	R	H-32	TX Oil & Gas PAC
\$16,250	Myra Crownover	R	H-64	TX Oil & Gas PAC
\$15,000	Todd Staples	R	Agricult. Com.	TX Oil & Gas PAC
\$14,800	Jose Rodriguez	D	S-29	TX Oil & Gas PAC
\$14,250	Linda Harper-Brown	R	H-105	TX Oil & Gas PAC
\$14,000	Carlos Uresti	D	S-19	TX Oil & Gas PAC
\$13,050	Jane Nelson	R	S-12	Chesapeake Operating, Inc.
\$13,000	Kelly Hancock	R	H-91	TX Oil & Gas PAC
\$12,750	Dan Huberty	R	H-127	Chesapeake/TX Oil & Gas PAC
\$11,750	Yvonne Gonzalez*	D	H-35	TX Oil & Gas PAC
\$11,750	Patrick Rose*	D	H-45	TX Oil & Gas PAC
\$11,250	Vicki Truitt	R	H-98	TX Oil & Gas PAC
\$11,000	Charlie Howard	R	H-26	TX Oil & Gas PAC
\$10,750	James Keffer	R	H-60	Chesapeake Operating, Inc.
\$10,750	Lanham Lyne	R	H-69	TX Oil & Gas PAC
\$10,500	Ken Legler	R	H-144	TX Oil & Gas PAC
\$10,500	Mark Strama	D	H-50	TX Oil & Gas PAC
\$10,250	Byron Cook	R	H-8	Chesapeake Operating, Inc.
\$10,000	Dan Branch	R	H-108	TX Oil & Gas PAC
\$10,000	Jim Murphy	R	H-133	TX Oil & Gas PAC
\$10,000	Tommy Williams	R	S-4	Anadarko CEO James Hackett
\$9,300	Robert Nichols	R	S-3	Chesapeake Operating, Inc.
\$9,250	Tara Rios Ybarra*	D	H-43	TX Oil & Gas PAC
\$9,000	Dwayne Bohac	R	H-138	TX Oil & Gas PAC
\$9,000	Troy Fraser	R	S-24	TX Oil & Gas PAC
\$9,000	Lyle Larson	R	H-122	TX Oil & Gas PAC
\$8,500	Walter 'Four' Price	R	H-87	TX Oil & Gas PAC
\$8,250	Debra Lehrmann	R	Supreme Court	ConocoPhillips PAC
\$8,000	Betty Brown*	R	H-4	TX Oil & Gas PAC
\$8,000	Joan Huffman	R	S-17	ConocoPhillips PAC
\$8,000	John Otto	R	H-18	ConocoPhillips PAC

\$7,750	Ellen Cohen*	D	H-134	Shell Sr. VP Catherine Lamboley
\$7,350	John Zerwas	R	H-28	TX Oil & Gas PAC
\$7,250	Warren Chisum	R	H-88	ConocoPhillips PAC
\$7,250	Delwin Jones*	R	H-83	TX Oil & Gas PAC
\$6,527	Debra Medina*	R	Governor	Samson's Billy Alton White
\$6,500	Larry Gonzales	R	H-52	TX Oil & Gas PAC
\$6,500	Lance Gooden	R	H-4	TX Oil & Gas PAC
\$6,500	Paul Green	R	Supreme Court	Conoco/Charles Matthews
\$6,500	Jim Pitts	R	H-10	Chesapeake Operating, Inc.
\$6,000	John Garza	R	H-117	TX Oil & Gas PAC
\$6,000	John Kuempel	R	H-44	TX Oil & Gas PAC
\$6,000	Donald 'Dee' Margo	R	H-78	TX Oil & Gas PAC
\$6,000	Burt Solomons	R	H-65	Chesapeake Operating, Inc.
\$5,750	Charles Anderson	R	H-56	ConocoPhillips PAC
\$5,750	Dennis Bonnen	R	H-25	Chesapeake/ConocoPhillips
\$5,750	Rob Eissler	R	H-15	Anadarko Petroleum Corp.
\$5,750	John Frullo	R	H-84	TX Oil & Gas PAC
\$5,750	Jim McReynolds*	D	H-12	Chesapeake Operating, Inc.
\$5,500	Joe Driver	R	H-113	TX Oil & Gas PAC
\$5,250	Sid Miller	R	H-59	TX Oil & Gas PAC
\$5,250	Jim Moseley*	R	Supreme Court	Exxon VP Charles Matthews
\$5,000	Cindy Burkett	R	H-101	TX Oil & Gas PAC
\$5,000	Stefani Carter	R	H-102	TX Oil & Gas PAC
\$5,000	Jose 'Joe' Lopez	D	Dist. Judge-49	Chesapeake Operating, Inc.
\$5,000	Barbara Nash	R	H-93	TX Oil & Gas PAC
\$5,000	Marc Veasey	D	H-95	Quicksilver Pres. Glenn Darden
\$4,800	Patricia Harless	R	H-126	BP PAC/Anadarko Petroleum
\$4,750	John Davis	R	H-129	TX Oil & Gas PAC
\$4,750	Edmund Kuempel	R	H-44	TX Oil & Gas PAC
\$4,750	Allan Ritter	R	H-21	Chesapeake Operating, Inc.
\$4,593	Nathaniel Parker	R	H-63	Chesapeake Operating, Inc.
\$4,500	Wayne Christian	R	H-9	Chesapeake Operating, Inc.
\$4,500	Rick Hardcastle	R	H-68	ExxonMobil PAC
\$4,300	Florence Shapiro	R	S-8	ExxonMobil PAC
\$4,300	Kirk Watson	D	S-14	ExxonMobil PAC
\$4,000	Bill Callegari	R	H-132	ExxonMobil PAC
\$4,000	Mabrie Jackson*	R	H-66	ConocoPhillips PAC
\$4,000	Tommy Merritt*	R	H-7	TX Oil & Gas PAC
\$4,000	Rene Oliveira	D	H-37	multiple
\$3,750	Fred Brown	R	H-14	TX Oil & Gas PAC
\$3,750	Tracy King	D	H-80	Anadarko/Chesapeake
\$3,750	Randy Weber	R	H-29	ConocoPhillips PAC
\$3,500	Chris Turner*	D	H-96	Chesapeake Operating, Inc.
\$3,500	'Dale' Wainwright	R	Supreme Court	Exxon VP Charles Matthews
\$3,250	Wayne Smith	R	H-128	Conoco/Devon Energy
\$3,232	Angie Chen Button	R	H-112	TX Oil & Gas PAC
\$3,000	Jeffrey Cason*	R	H-92	TX Oil & Gas PAC
\$3,000	Tom Craddick	R	H-82	ConocoPhillips PAC
\$3,000	Brandon Creighton	R	H-16	Anadarko Petroleum Corp.
\$3,000	Craig Eiland	D	H-23	BP PAC
\$3,000	Kevin P. Eltife	R	S-1	Anadarko/Conoco/Devon
\$3,000	Dan Flynn*	R	H-2	TX Oil & Gas PAC
\$3,000	Mark Griffin	R	H-84	TX Oil & Gas PAC

\$3,000	Wallace Jefferson	R	Supreme Court	Exxon VP Charles Matthews
\$3,000	Carol Kent*	D	H-102	Exxon tax advisor Robert Book
\$3,000	Ted Reynolds*	R	H-58	TX Oil & Gas PAC
\$3,000	Larry Taylor	R	H-24	ExxonMobil PAC
\$3,000	Senfronia Thompson	D	H-141	ConocoPhillips PAC
\$2,840	Tom Schieffer	D	Governor	Exxon Attorney Jack Balagia, Jr.
\$2,500	Tamika C. Demming	D	Fam. Court-310	Shell Analyst Pam Craft
\$2,500	Craig Estes	R	S-30	ConocoPhillips/XTO Energy
\$2,500	Stephen Frost*	D	H-1	Chesapeake/ConocoPhillips
\$2,500	Dan Gattis	R	H-20	Ret. Exxon Pres. Morris Foster
\$2,500	Elizabeth A. Jones	R	Railroad Com.	ConocoPhillips PAC
\$2,500	Rob Orr	R	H-58	ExxonMobil PAC
\$2,500	Al Scoggins	R	Appeals Ct.-10	Anadarko CEO James Hackett
\$2,500	Todd Smith	R	H-92	Chesapeake Operating, Inc.
\$2,500	Rick Strange*	R	Supreme Court	XTO Energy PAC
\$2,500	Michael Williams	R	Railroad Com.	ConocoPhillips PAC
\$2,500	Leslie Yates*	R	Appeals Ct.-14	Anadarko CEO James Hackett
\$2,300	Dan Patrick	R	S-7	ExxonMobil PAC
\$2,250	Mark Homer*	D	H-3	Chesapeake Operating, Inc.
\$2,250	Tim Kleinschmidt	R	H-17	ConocoPhillips PAC
\$2,250	Milton Rister*	R	H-20	ConocoPhillips PAC
\$2,000	Rodney Ellis	D	S-13	BP PAC
\$2,000	Veronica Gonzales	D	H-41	BP PAC
\$2,000	Ryan Guillen	D	H-31	Chesapeake Operating, Inc.
\$2,000	Juan 'Chuy'Hinojosa	D	S-20	Apache/Devon Energy
\$2,000	Victor Leal*	R	H-87	ConocoPhillips PAC
\$2,000	Ken Paxton	R	H-70	Williams Companies PAC
\$2,000	Paula Pierson*	D	H-93	Chesapeake Operating, Inc.
\$2,000	David Sibley*	R	S-22	Devon Energy PAC
\$1,750	Phil King	R	H-61	ExxonMobil PAC
\$1,750	Marisa Marquez	D	H-77	ExxonMobil PAC
\$1,750	Larry Phillips	R	H-62	ExxonMobil PAC
\$1,750	Mark Shelton	R	H-97	ExxonMobil PAC
\$1,600	Martha Jamison	R	Appeals Ct.-14	Exxon VP Charles Matthews
\$1,500	Rafael Anchia	D	H-103	Exxon tax advisor Robert Book
\$1,500	Drew Darby	R	H-72	Chesapeake Operating, Inc.
\$1,500	Pete Gallego	D	H-74	Apache/BP/Devon
\$1,500	Tryon Lewis	R	H-81	Apache/Conoco/Devon
\$1,500	Diane Patrick	R	H-94	ExxonMobil PAC
\$1,300	Barbara Radnofsky*	D	Attorney	Barry Hunsaker/Robert Book
\$1,250	Joe Deshotel	D	H-22	ExxonMobil PAC
\$1,250	Dawnna Dukes	D	H-46	Williams Companies PAC
\$1,250	Mike Hamilton	R	H-19	ExxonMobil PAC
\$1,250	Harvey Hilderban	R	H-53	ExxonMobil PAC
\$1,250	Lois Kolkhorst	R	H-13	ExxonMobil PAC
\$1,250	Jose Manuel Lozano	D	H-43	ExxonMobil PAC
\$1,250	Nicholas 'Van'Taylor	R	H-66	ConocoPhillips PAC
\$1,250	Mike Villarreal	D	H-123	ExxonMobil PAC
\$1,235	Kathie Y. Glass	L	Governor	Exxon IT Mgr. Edward Hicks
\$1,200	Marva Beck	R	H-57	ConocoPhillips PAC
\$1,784,104	SUBTOTAL			

*Lost race.

Top Gas-Giant Contributors

Amount	Contributor	City	Company	Favorite Politician(s)
\$483,723	Texas Oil & Gas Assn.	Austin	Texas Oil & Gas Assn.	Lt. Gov. Dewhurst
\$169,000	ConocoPhillips PAC	Houston	ConocoPhillips Co.	Gov. Perry
\$150,600	ExxonMobil PAC	Irving	Exxon Mobil Corp.	Gov. Perry
\$149,821	Chesapeake Operating	Oklahoma City	Chesapeake Energy Corp.	Gov. Perry
\$106,959	James T. Hackett	Houston	Anadarko President & CEO	Lt. Gov. Dewhurst
\$105,500	James D. Finley	Fort Worth	Quicksilver Resources Chair	Bill White
\$87,250	Devon Energy PAC	Oklahoma City	Devon Energy Corp.	Gov. Perry
\$85,000	Morris Foster	Houston	Exxon Retired President	Gov. Perry
\$77,500	Anadarko Petro. Corp.	Woodlands	Anadarko Petroleum Corp.	Dewhurst/Speaker Straus
\$69,500	John B. Walker	Houston	EnerVest, Ltd. CEO	Gov. Perry
\$66,500	BP N. America PAC	Warrenville	BP America, Inc.	Sen. Glenn Hegar
\$44,850	Charles Matthews, Jr.	Dallas	Exxon Gen'l Counsel	Kay B. Hutchison
\$29,500	XTO Energy PAC	Fort Worth	XTO Energy Inc.	Bill White
\$25,100	Douglas L. Foshee	Houston	El Paso Corp. President &	Bill White
\$25,000	Aubrey K. McClendon	Oklahoma City	Chesapeake Chair & CEO	Bill White
\$22,000	Williams Co's PAC	Washington	Williams Companies, Inc.	Sen. Jane Nelson
\$21,000	Jon Rex Jones	Albany	EnerVest, Ltd. Chair	Gov. Perry
\$18,500	Apache Corp.	Houston	Apache Corp.	Dewhurst/Straus/Weems
\$15,750	Catherine Lamboley	Houston	Shell Oil Senior VP	Ex-Rep. Ellen Cohen
\$15,150	Robert Book	Dallas	Exxon Tax Advisor	Ex-Rep. Carol Kent
\$15,000	Sylvester Johnson	Houston	Carrizo Oil & Gas CEO	Bill White
\$14,380	Joe Hinton	Crawford	Mobil Oil retired executive	Gov. Perry
\$14,000	Thomas Darden	Fort Worth	Quicksilver Resources Chair	A.G. Greg Abbott/Perry
\$12,500	Lisa Walker	Houston	Enervest, Ltd. CEO's spouse	Kay B. Hutchison
\$11,000	Urban F.O'Brien III	Houston	Apache Corp. VP Gov. Affairs	Bill White
\$10,750	A. L. Ballard	Houston	Ballard Exploration Co. owner	Rail. Com. David Porter
\$10,400	Barry Hunsaker	Houston	EOG Gen'l Counsel	Bill White
\$10,300	Roger B. Plank	Houston	Apache Corp. CFO	Jeff Weems
\$10,000	Glenn Darden	Fort Worth	Quicksilver President	Kay B. Hutchison
\$8,000	G. Steven Farris	Katy	Apache President & COO	Bill White
\$7,590	Jack Balagia Jr.	Houston	Exxon Ast. Gen'l Counsel	Tom Schieffer
\$7,500	Chevron TX PAC	Austin	Chevron USA	Lt. Gov. Dewhurst
\$7,000	Kenneth Cohen	Dallas	Exxon VP Public Affairs	Kay B. Hutchison
\$6,600	Rex Tillerson	Irving	Exxon Chair & CEO	Kay B. Hutchison
\$5,500	Gerardo Balboa	Bellaire	BP Senior Vice President	Gov. Perry
\$1,918,723	Subtotal			

Top PAC Recipients of Money From Top Texas Gas Producers

Amount	Political Action Committee	Favorite Gas-Giant Contributor
\$40,000	Mexican American Legislative Caucus	Texas Oil & Gas Assn.
\$35,000	Texas Legislative Black Caucus	BP North America
\$16,500	Texans For Lawsuit Reform PAC	Anadarko CEO James Hackett
\$7,750	Annie's List	Shell Sr. VP Catherine Lamboley
\$6,000	Friends of Baylor Med	Anadarko CEO James Hackett
\$5,000	Citizens For A Better Fort Worth	XTO Energy PAC
\$5,000	Mex. Am. Legislative Leadership Fdn.	Chevron TX Employees PAC
\$5,000	Texas Civil Justice League PAC	ConocoPhillips PAC

¹ Gas-tax breaks cost \$7.4 billion from fiscal year 2004 through fiscal 2009.