MONEY TRAILS



Protecting Colorado's Environment, Economy, And Energy Independence (PCEEI)

Background

PCEEEI is a campaign committee in Colorado that funnels millions of dollars' worth of contributions from the oil and gas industry into campaigns to oppose citizen-led ballot initiatives that would regulate the industry and the practice of hydraulic fracturing.

Its two largest funders are Anadarko Petroleum and Noble Energy, but PCEEEI also receives tens of millions of dollars from other oil and gas corporations, including Chevron, BP, ConocoPhillips, and dozens of smaller entities.

PCEEEI works to fight against citizen-led initiatives that are trying to regulate the state's oil industry. With the backing of mega oil corporations, PCEEEI was created to protect oil and gas industry profits. At the end of the day, PCEEEI is a blatant attempt to dismantle Colorado's public lands protections and widen industry control over the state's outdoor heritage.

PCEEEI Is An Oil Industry-Funded PAC That Fights Citizen-Led Regulations To Protect The Oil Industry's Profits

PCEEEI Is A Political Action Committee That Uses Millions Of Oil Dollars To Fight Citizen-Led Initiatives To Regulate Colorado's Oil Industry PCEEEI Is A Political Action Committee That Fights Regulations On Colorado's Oil And Gas Industry. Protecting Colorado's Environment, Economy, And Energy Independence (PCEEEI) is a political committee whose purpose is "to support state and local ballot initiatives that promote a vibrant colorado economy and oppose those measures that seek to harm colorado's economy and way of life." [Colorado Secretary of State, accessed 07/26/19]

PCEEEI, Also Called "Protecting Colorado" For Short, Was Established With Money From Anadarko Petroleum And Noble Energy. "... At least four other Front Range municipalities pushing anti-fracking ballot initiatives in 2013 and Polis arguing for a statewide initiative for further restrictions, top energy producers in the state crafted plans to fight back. Anadarko Petroleum and Noble Energy, the top energy producers in the state, lead the way. Their campaignfinance records and political activity reports shows that since 2012, the companies are responsible for two-thirds of the money given to an industry political issue committee known as Protect Colorado, which has spent \$30 million since 2013 on ballot initiatives and issues." [Denver Post, 07/16/17

PCEEEI Was Formed To Protect Oil and Gas Industry Profits. "A good example is the oil and gas industry front group Protecting Colorado's Environment, Economy, and Energy Independence (Protect Colorado), which was formed specifically to fight against any citizen initiative that could hinder oil and gas industry profits. Among its activities are pushing industry-spawned initiatives that make it harder for citizens to get measures on the ballot along with other political activity like directing campaign contributions to pro-oil candidates, even at the city council level. CRED's own director of operations and coalitions, Mark Truax, has referred to Protect Colorado as, 'kinda the political arm we work with.' And it's a very short arm." [Boulder Weekly, <u>06/07/18</u>]

PCEEEI Has A Tight Relationship With Coloradans For Responsible Energy Development (CRED), A Dark Money Astroturf Group

PCEEEI Is Closely Affiliated With Citizens For Responsible Energy Development, A Dark Money Astroturf Group For Anadarko And Noble Energy

PCEEEI Is "Organized" By Citizens For Responsible Energy Development, A Nonprofit Which Is Also Funded By Anadarko And Noble Energy. "The oversized glossy mailers and robo-calls came in waves over the course of weeks to residents of this small Front Range city, asking them to protect their children, property and low tax rates by voting against a proposed city moratorium on the oil-and-gas extraction method known as hydraulic fracturing, or fracking. The group behind the campaign calls itself 'Protect Colorado,' short for 'Protecting Colorado's Environment, Economy and Energy Independence.' It's a politics issue committee organized by a public-relations group called Coloradans for Responsible Energy Development, or CRED, which is funded by the two most active Front Range oil-and-gas companies, Anadarko Petroleum and Noble Energy." [The Colorado Independent, <u>07/07/14</u>]

PCEEEI Has Raked In Nearly \$68 Million From The Oil And Gas Industry.

Nearly all of PCEEEI's contributions have come from the Oil and Gas Industry.

- \$6,941,000 from Anadarko In the 2018 cycle
- \$6,712,500 from Anadarko In the 2016 cycle
- \$4,115,236 from Anadarko In the 2014 cycle
- \$6,583,500 from Noble Energy in the 2018 cycle
- \$5,627,500 from Noble Energy in the 2016 cycle
- \$4,115,236 from Noble Energy in the 2014 cycle
- \$3,499,091 from Extraction Oil & Gas in the 2018 cycle
- \$1,047,655 from DCP Midstream in the 2018 cycle
- \$1,037,665 from Hall Energy Service Inc in the 2018 cycle
- \$3,383,900 from PDC Energy in the 2018 cycle
- \$2,235,666 from SRC Energy Inc in the 2018 cycle
- \$1,000,000 from ConocoPhillips in the 2018 cycle
- \$1,400,000 from Chevron in the 2018 cycle
- \$3,076,971 in in-kind contributions from the Colorado Petroleum Council in the 2018 cycle.