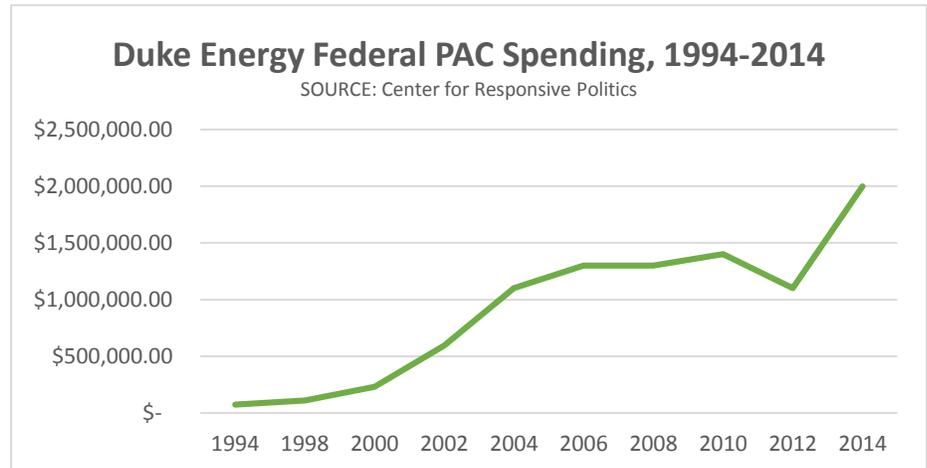




Duke Energy's Political Spending

Duke Energy's federal political action committee (PAC) spent **\$1,985,298¹** in the 2014 midterm elections. Over the last twenty years, Duke's PAC spending on federal elections has increased from about \$75,000 in the 1994 elections to nearly \$2 million in the 2014 elections.

In addition to Duke's federal political spending, it is estimated that Duke spent over **\$2.4 million²** on state candidates, committees, and ballot measures in the 2014 midterms.



In April 2015, Democracy North Carolina revealed that Duke Energy has also contributed over **\$3 million³** to the Republican Governors Association, making the company the RGA's top corporate donor and second largest funder, behind Las Vegas Sands billionaire owner Sheldon Adelson, who have \$3.5 million to the RGA. The contributions Duke Energy gives to other electoral organizations that do not disclose its donors remains unknown.

Duke Energy's Lobbying Spending

In 2014, Duke Energy spent **\$5,870,000⁴** on federal lobbying expenditures, according to the Center for Responsive Politics, although it remains unclear how much Duke spends on lobbying state and local governments.

The amount Duke Energy spends on indirect lobbying through third party groups also remains unknown to both shareholders and the public. For example, Duke is a member and funder of the **American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC)**. However, the dues and other payments made are hidden as well as the percentage of the payments used for lobbying. In many policy areas, ALEC's lobbying on issues is in direct contradiction to Duke's stated public policy, such as climate change. ALEC's work to promote legislation that denies the science of climate change and oppose renewable energy has led numerous large companies cutting ties with the organization, including Microsoft, Google, Facebook, eBay, Occidental Petroleum, BP, and Northrop Grumman. After Duke Energy's then-CEO Jim Rogers left the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's board of directors over the issue of climate change in 2010, numerous local and national groups have called on Duke Energy to also cut ties with ALEC, including Common Cause, Greenpeace, Public Citizen, Southern Energy Network, CREDO Action, Energy Action Coalition, the Center for Media and Democracy, and NC Warn.

¹ Center for Responsive Politics: [Duke Energy PAC](#)

² National Institute for Money in State Politics: [Duke Energy](#)

³ Democracy North Carolina, "[Duke Energy Gives \\$3 Million to Committee Tied to Gov. Pat McCrory as He Guides Coal Ash Response](#)," April 13, 2015

⁴ Center for Responsive Politics: [Duke Energy lobbying profile](#)