

Alliance for a Better Minnesota Ad Check: *“Grace”*

Script	Background
<p><i>You and I don't need a TV ad to tell us how much the oil companies are squeezing us.</i></p> <p><i>But Maybe norm Coleman does.</i></p>	<p><u>Oil Companies Spend Millions to Influence Lawmakers:</u></p> <p>Oil and Gas Companies Spent Over \$665 Million to Influence Lawmakers Since 1998. Since 1998, the oil and gas industry has spent \$665,862,779 to influence lawmakers and push their agenda. [Center for Responsive Politics]</p> <p>Oil Companies Pocketed Over \$140 Billion in Past 12 Months. According to an analysis by the Center for American Progress, oil companies have raked in over \$140 billion in profits over the past 12 months. [Center for American Progress, 7/31/08]</p> <p>\$236 Per American Driver. Oil and gas companies have earned at least \$140 billion in the past twelve months. According to a report by the Center for American Progress, oil companies have made \$236 per American driver in the past 12 months. [Center for American Progress, 7/31/08]</p> <p><u>2008: Oil Companies Reported Enormous Second Quarter Profits.</u> According to a report prepared by the Center for American Progress, major oil companies announced huge second quarter profits of their own for the second quarter of 2008:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Exxon - \$11.68 billion• Shell - \$11.6 billion• ConocoPhillips - \$5.4 billion• BP - \$9.4 billion• Chevron - \$5.8 billion <p>[Center for American Progress, 7/31/08; CNN, 8/1/08; Chicago Tribune, 8/1/08]</p> <p><u>2008: Exxon Reported Biggest Quarterly Profit in American History.</u> Exxon Mobil Corp. recently reported the richest corporate operating profit in history, setting a new record with a \$11.68 billion second-quarter operating profit. [Chicago Tribune, 8/1/08]</p> <p><u>2007: Oil Companies Made \$123 Billion in Profits.</u> Oil companies made \$123 billion in profits in 2007. Exxon Mobil made over \$40 billion in profits which was the highest profit ever for an American Company. The San Francisco Chronicle said Chevron made a record \$18.7 billion in 2007, which was the fourth straight year of record-high profits for the company. [San Francisco Chronicle, 2/2/08; Center for American Progress, 2/5/08; U.S. News and World Report, 2/1/08; New York Times, 2/1/08]</p>

Norm has a record of voting with George Bush and the big oil companies, giving them big tax breaks while they make billions and we struggle.

Coleman Supported Tax Giveaways to Oil Companies:

Coleman Supported \$14.5 Billion in Energy Tax Credits and Subsidies - Including \$2.6 Billion for Oil and Gas Companies. In July 2005, Norm Coleman voted for an energy bill that made available \$14.5 billion in subsidies and tax credits, including up to \$3.2 billion for renewable electricity sources, \$3.1 billion for electric utilities, \$2.9 billion for the coal industry and \$2.6 billion for oil and gas companies. Smaller sums would be available for research into alternatives to gasoline-fueled cars and for conservation programs. The measure won final approval in the Senate 74-26 and was signed into law by President Bush. [HR 6, Vote #213, 7/29/05, Adopted 74-26]

Coleman Stood with Bush, Voted to Protect \$5 Billion Big-Oil Tax Windfall. In May 2006, Coleman voted for the GOP's \$70 billion tax-cut bill. According to the Boston Globe, "Big oil companies won their push to keep intact accounting changes that stand to net them \$5.1 billion" in the bill. Bush opposed a \$5 billion windfall profits tax for oil companies. [Vote #118, [5/11/06](#); Boston Globe, 5/12/06; Washington Post, [4/26/06](#); New York Times, [2/14/06](#)]

Bush Administration Protected Big Oil's Profits. Despite calls for more investment in energy independence and renewable energy, Bush slashed funding for these programs while protecting Big Oil's tax breaks. [Center for American Progress, [3/4/08](#)]

Coleman Running Away from Bush-Cheney Record on Energy:

2001: When Bush Energy Plan was Unveiled in Saint Paul, Coleman Proclaimed "This Is A Great Day for Minnesota." In 2001, Norm Coleman hosted and stood by the side of President Bush as the Bush-Cheney national energy plan was unveiled to America in May 2001. After Bush delivered a speech outlining his energy plans, which called for more oil, more coal, more fossil fuel pollution and drilling in ANWR, Coleman said: "This is a great day for Minnesota." [Star Tribune, 5/18/01; U.S. Newswire, 5/17/01]

2001: Bush Administration Plan Provided Energy and Oil Companies with \$33 Billion in Tax Cuts. The Bush Administration supported the House energy bill (HR 4), which included energy industry tax breaks and subsidies costing \$36.352 billion over the next ten years. The major industries that would benefit from the House energy bill included coal, oil and gas, electric utilities and nuclear. [House Committee on Government Reform, "Hitting the Jackpot, How the House Energy Bill (H.R. 4) Rewards Millions in Contributions with Billions in Returns," 8/1/01]

2002: Coleman Attacked Wellstone for Support of Renewable Energy Sources. Candidate Coleman attacked Paul Wellstone for voting to require that 20 percent of all energy come from renewable sources by 2010. [Pioneer Press, 8/7/02; Bemidji Pioneer, 8/19/08]

Coleman Opposed Funding for Renewable Fuels:

Coleman Opposed \$500 Million Grant Program for Production of Biofuels.

In 2007, Coleman voted against an amendment that would authorize \$500 million, for fiscal 2008-2015, for the creation of a EPA grant program to encourage the production of advanced biofuels. [HR 6, Vote #219, 6/20/07]

Coleman Voted Against Renewable Energy Fund. In March 2007, Coleman voted against an amendment that would create a reserve fund to adjust the budget and pay for the impact of any legislation to extend renewable energy and energy efficiency tax incentives. The amendment, sponsored by Democrat Kent Conrad, was in direct competition with one that Coleman himself sponsored. Conrad's amendment passed while Coleman's amendment failed. [S Con Res 21, Vote #97, 3/22/07; S Con Res 21, Vote #98, 3/22/07; CQ Today, 3/22/07]

Coleman Voted Against Renewable Fuel Requirements. In April 2004, Coleman voted against a motion to limit debate on an amendment requiring that gasoline sold or introduced into the United States contain renewable fuel in specific amounts, beginning with 3.1 billion gallons in 2005 and increasing each year to 5 billion gallons in 2012. [S 150, Vote #73, 4/29/04]

Coleman Voted Against \$3.5 Billion in Energy Programs Including Extension Of Renewable Energy Programs. In March 2006, Coleman voted against an amendment to the Fiscal Year 2007 Budget Resolution that would raise the discretionary spending limit by \$4 billion to allow for \$3.5 billion in authorized energy programs, \$500 million for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), the extension of the renewable energy production tax credit, and the clean renewable energy bonds program. The amendment failed in a vote of 46 to 54. [S Con Res 83, Vote #42, 3/14/06]

...Yet Coleman is Telling Minnesotans that He's a "Long-Time Advocate" for Renewable Energy. In a press release, Coleman's campaign claims: "Senator Coleman is a long-time advocate for utilizing innovative energy solutions, including wind, clean coal, coal-to-liquid, biofuels, nuclear and fuel from sugar beets grown right here in Minnesota." [Coleman for Senate, [8/15/08](#)]

Maybe Norm has spent too much time in Washington. So here it is Norm, the high price of oil is really hurting us here in Minnesota. So it's time you start voting like you work for us, not the big oil companies. Thanks for listening.

Coleman Campaign Fueled by Big Oil:

Coleman has Taken \$244,900 from the Oil and Gas Industry. Since running for Senate, Coleman has taken \$244,900 in campaign contributions from the oil and gas industry. [Center for Responsive Politics, [8/6/08](#)]

2008: Coleman has Taken \$32,000 from Oil & Gas PAC's. According to campaign finance reports, Norm Coleman has taken \$32,000 from oil and gas PAC's that include Exxon Mobil, Chevron and British Petroleum. [Center for Responsive Politics, Accessed [8/12/08](#)]