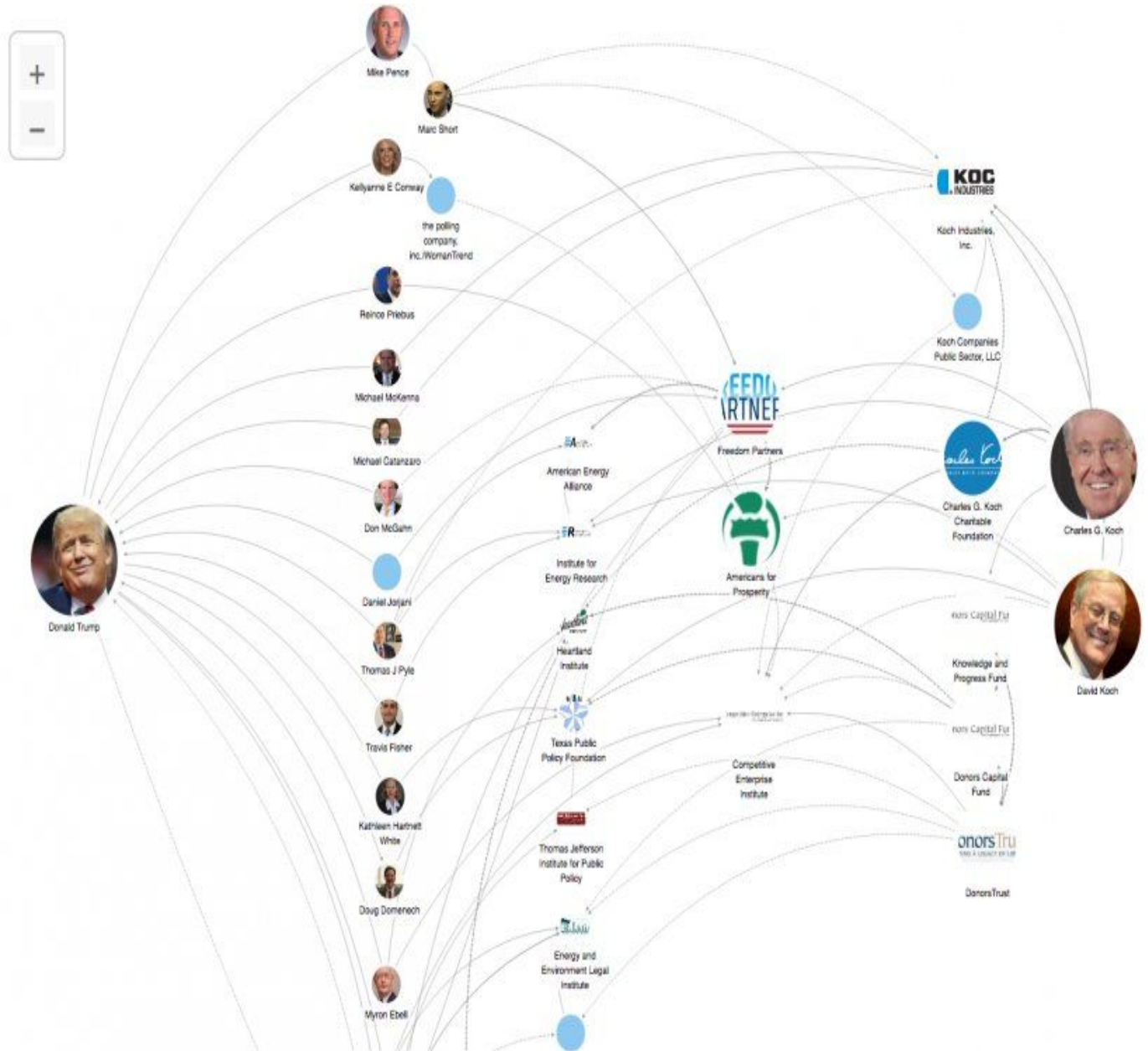


# TRUMP AND KOCH

BY <https://twitter.com/@ironstowe>

On the campaign trail, Donald Trump boasted that he had no need for the Koch brothers, claiming to have rejected meetings with them and



calling his Republican primary opponents “puppets” for meeting with the Kochs.

**Donald J. Trump** [Verified account](#) @realDonaldTrump

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I turned down a meeting with Charles and David Koch. Much better for them to meet with the puppets of politics, they will do much better!

3:01 PM - 30 Jul 2016

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**Donald J. Trump** [Verified account](#) @realDonaldTrump

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I wish good luck to all of the Republican candidates that traveled to California to beg for money etc. from the Koch Brothers. Puppets?

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7:00 AM - 2 Aug 2015



## [After Snubs, Trump Claims He Rejected Koch Request to Meet](#)

But officials with Freedom Partners, the Koch's political arm, indicated that they requested no meeting. [Nbcnews.com](#)

Yet, today, Trump's Cabinet is quickly filling with a number of Koch affiliates, confidantes, and business associates.



## [Kochs Control Trump-Puppet Through Appointees](#)

This is a guest post by [ClimateDenierRoundup](#) [desmogblog.com](#)

Trump's top officials and his energy, climate, and environment staff are tied to the Koch brothers and their donor networks. A full survey of all Koch-ties in Trump's team and Cabinet would feature a dozen or so more names—including Mike Pompeo and Jeff Sessions, Trump's CIA director and Attorney General, respectively—and look even more cluttered than the map you see. For the sake of navigability and clarity, the top staff and those most directly tied to energy and the environment are included in this map.

## **The Inner Circle: Mike Pence, Kellyanne Conway, and Reince Preibus**

**Vice President Mike Pence** has been a favorite of the Kochs for years, and his Chief of Staff Marc Short recently ran the Kochs' political umbrella group Freedom Partners Chamber of Commerce.



**[Vice President Mike Pence Would Be a Dream for the Koch Brothers](#)**  
**[Donald Trump triumphed in the Republican primaries, at least in part, because he explicitly rejected the party's donor class and relentlessly pai... thenation.com](#)**



## [Meet The Man Who Runs The Koch Brothers' Secret Bank](#)

The current of dark money that has flowed into the U.S. political system over the past three years -- as anonymously-funded outside groups have proliferated ... [talkingpointsmemo.co](http://talkingpointsmemo.co)

**Kellyanne Conway**, through her polling company, has done work for Pence and for Americans for Prosperity, the Koch-funded advocacy group. Also was family spokesperson for Mercers. And Bannon closely tied to Rebekah Mercer. They want a return on their \$14mil.



## [Meet the woman tapped to help save Trump's campaign](#)



Donald Trump shook up his campaign for the second time this summer, appointing pollster Kellyanne Conway as his new campaign manager on [W... edition.cnn.com](#)



**Reince Priebus** -White House Chief of Staff Reince Priebus formed close ties with the Kochs while coordinating with the Wisconsin chapter of Americans for Prosperity on voter caging efforts scandal, *carried a lot of water for the Koch-led group in Wisconsin. Now he's rewarded.* Priebus' RNC was described by AlterNet as a “wholly owned subsidiary of the Koch's Americans for Prosperity.”



[Priebus' Republican National Committee: A Wholly Owned Subsidiary of Koch's Americans for Prosper...](#)

To the casual political observer, Reince Priebus, the newly elected chairman of the Republican National Committee, seemed to come out of nowhere.... [Altnet.org](#)

## **The Koch Industries Connections: Michael McKenna and Michael Catanzaro**

Michael McKenna and Michael Catanzaro were both original members of Trump's Department of Energy transition team, and both had recent lobbying contracts with Koch Industries. Both McKenna and Catanzaro stepped down after refusing to deregister as lobbyists.



## **Donald Trump's Big Ethics Move Is to Replace Lobbyists With Former Lobbyists**

Donald Trump's transition-team "lobbying ban" looks like a big con on closer inspection. [\\_theintercept.com](#)

## **The Freedom Partners Connection: Don McGahn and Daniel Jorjani**

Don McGahn was named White House Counsel, or the top legal advisor to the President. McGahn has a long history of “courting controversy,” defending then House Majority Whip Tom Delay in his ethics scandals. McGahn has recently represented Freedom Partners, which Politico has called the “secret bank” of the Koch brothers. Daniel Jorjani is General Counsel to Freedom Partners, and was named to the Department of the Interior.



### **The Koch brothers' secret bank**

The filing offers a rare tour of the conservative movement and how it gets its funds. [politico.com](http://politico.com)

### **Revealed: Extensive Koch Links to New Right-Wing \$250 Million Mega Fund**

Freedom Partners (FP) -- a funding group previously unheard of before it shared exclusive and highly selective details about itself with Politico last week -- has extens... [prwatch.org](http://prwatch.org)

### **The Institute for Energy Research Connection:**



## Tom Pyle and Travis Fisher

Thomas Pyle replaced Catanzaro as head of the Department of Energy's transition team. Pyle serves as President of the Institute for Energy Research and the American Energy Alliance, sister organizations that are funded by the Koch network. Documents obtained by the Republic Report revealed that Charles Koch was directly involved with the IER at its formation. Pyle also worked as a registered lobbyist for Koch Industries and served as the Koch Industries Director of Federal Affairs, a lobbying job, from 2001 through 2005. Pyle presumably brought his colleague, Travis Fisher, an economist with IER, on to the DOE transition efforts.



### Institute for Energy Research - Koch Vs Clean

The Institute for Energy Research (IER) is an industry-funded, not-for-profit organization focused on “energy analysis and free-market energy and envi... [kochvsclean.com](http://kochvsclean.com)



## [American Energy Alliance - Koch Vs Clean](#)

The American Energy Alliance (AEA) is the “advocacy arm” of the Institute for Energy Research, and describes itself as a “not-for-profit organization t... [kochvsclean.com](#)

## **Charles Koch Personally Founded Group Protecting Oil Industry Hand-Outs, Documents Reveal**

‘Lifestyles of the Rich Environmentalists,’ produced by a group called the Institute for Energy Research, is a slick web video campaign designed to lampoon Leonardo ... [republicreport.org](#)

## **The Texas Public Policy Foundation Connections: Doug Domenech and Kathleen Hartnett White**

Doug Domenech was assigned to lead the transition to the Department of the Interior. Domenech is Director of the Fueling Freedom Project at the Texas Public Policy Foundation. The TPPF depends on donations from Koch-related foundations and from the Donors Capital Fund and Donors Trust, the “dark money ATM of the conservative movement” that also receive millions from Koch-related foundations. Another TPPF Fellow, Kathleen Hartnett White, was a finalist to serve as the head of the Environmental Protection Agency, before the job went to Oklahoma Attorney General Scott Pruitt.



## [Texas Public Policy Foundation](#)

[Texas Public Policy Foundation \(TPPF\)](#) [desmogblog.com](http://desmogblog.com)

### **The Climate Deniers:**

#### **Myron Ebell, Chris Horner, and David Schnare**

Trump picked **Myron Ebell** to lead the transition team for the Environmental Protection Agency. Ebell is the Director of Energy and Global Warming Policy at the Competitive Enterprise Institute, a public policy advocacy organization with close ties to the Koch brothers. CEI has received over \$4 million from Donors Trust, as well as donations directly from David Koch and the Charles G. Koch Charitable Foundation. **Chris Horner**, a policy fellow at CEI and climate denier, was named to the EPA transition team. Horner has made a living harassing climate scientists with legal intimidation tactics while at CEI, the Energy and Environment Legal Institute (EELI), and the Free Market Environmental Law Clinic (FMELC). the two organizations are inextricably linked. David Schnare, who has also waged intimidation campaigns against climate scientists, was tapped to serve on the EPA transition team. Schnare is Director of the (FMELC), General Counsel at the EELI, as well as the "Director of the Center for Environmental Stewardship" at the Thomas Jefferson Institute. What do these three organizations have in common? They are all funded

extensively by Donors Capital Fund and Donors Trust. Schnare is also an energy policy expert at the Heartland Institute.



### [Competitive Enterprise Institute](#)

Competitive Enterprise Institute (CEI) [desmogblog.com](http://desmogblog.com)

Scientists Not Surprised Climate Denialist Lawyer Christopher Horner Has Financial Ties to Alpha Coal Company



### [Scientists Not Surprised Climate Denialist Lawyer Christopher Horner Has Financial Ties to Alpha Coal Co.](#)

[A lawyer who has used intimidating legal requests to try to gain access to the records and emails of climate scientists has a financial relationship wit... desmogblog.com](#)



Energy & Environment Legal Institute (E&E Legal)

[desmogblog.com](https://desmogblog.com)

He waged intimidation campaigns against climate scientists; now he's helping Trump remake the EPA <https://interc.pt/2gt2hTK> by @lhfang



## **He Waged Intimidation Campaigns Against Climate Scientists; Now He's Helping Trump Remake the EPA**

Trump EPA operative David Schnare, an attorney for a coal-industry-backed nonprofit, has targeted leading scientists working on climate change res... [theintercept.com](https://theintercept.com)