



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C.

RQ-2

March 12, 2025

EDWARD SPIKER, TREASURER
OHIO COAL ASSOCIATION PAC
17 S. HIGH ST.
COLUMBUS, OH 43215

Response Due Date
04/16/2025

IDENTIFICATION NUMBER: C00381277

REFERENCE: 12 DAY PRE-GENERAL REPORT (10/01/2024 - 10/16/2024)

Dear Treasurer:

This letter is prompted by the Commission's preliminary review of the report referenced above. This notice requests information essential to full public disclosure of your federal election campaign finances. **Failure to adequately respond by the response date noted above could result in an audit or enforcement action.** Additional information is needed for the following 2 item(s):

1. Commission Regulations require that a committee discloses the identification of all individuals who contribute in excess of \$200 in a calendar year. (11 CFR § 104.3(a)(4)(i)) Identification for an individual is defined as the full name (initials for first or last name are not acceptable), complete mailing address, occupation, and name of employer. (11 CFR § 100.12) Your report discloses contributions from individuals for which the identification is not complete.

The following employer name and occupation entries appear on your report and are not considered acceptable: **"Business Owner/(Blank)," "(Blank)/(Blank)" "CCU/Coal Miner," "(Blank)/Equipment Sales," "CCU/Miner," "CCU/Owner," "CCU/Sales."**

You must provide the missing information, or if you are unable to do so, you must demonstrate that "best efforts" have been used to obtain the information. To establish "best efforts," you must provide the Commission with a detailed description of your procedures for requesting the information. Establishing "best efforts" is a three-fold process.

First, your original solicitation must include a clear and conspicuous request for the contributor information and must inform the contributor of the requirements of federal law for the reporting of such information. (11 CFR § 104.7(b)(1)) See 11 CFR § 104.7(b)(1)(B) for examples of acceptable statements regarding the requirements of federal law.

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Second, if the information is not provided, you must make one follow-up, stand alone effort to obtain this information, regardless of whether the contribution(s) was solicited or not. This effort must occur no later than 30 days after receipt of the contribution and may be in the form of a written request or an oral request documented in writing. (11 CFR § 104.7(b)(2)) The requests must:

- clearly ask for the missing information, without soliciting a contribution,
- inform the contributor of the requirements of federal law for the reporting of such information, and
- if the request is written, include a pre-addressed post card or return envelope.

Third, if you receive contributor information after the contribution(s) has been reported, you should either a) file with your next regularly scheduled report, an amended memo Schedule A listing all the contributions for which additional information was received; or b) file on or before your next regularly scheduled reporting date, amendments to the report(s) originally disclosing the contribution(s). (11 CFR § 104.7(b)(4))

Please amend your report to provide the missing information or a detailed description of your procedures for requesting the information. For more information on demonstrating "best efforts," please refer to the Campaign Guide.

2. Your report discloses a contribution which appears to exceed the limitations of 52 U.S.C. §30116 (see attached). A loan, endorsement, or guarantee is included in the definition of a contribution under 52 U.S.C. §30101(8)(A) and 11 CFR §100.52(b).

If any apparently excessive contribution in question was incompletely or incorrectly disclosed, you should amend your original report with clarifying information.

If you have received a contribution that exceeds the limits, you must repay the excessive amount. Please inform the Commission of your corrective action promptly by providing the date of the refund. The committee should retain for its records copies of refund check(s). Any repayment should be disclosed on a supporting Schedule B for Line 26 of your next report.

Alternatively, you may obtain additional endorsers or guarantors. To the extent that this requires renegotiation of the outstanding loan or execution of a new note, please inform the Commission in writing and identify any additional endorses/guarantors (including the amount(s) endorsed by each). Furthermore,

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any new or renegotiated loan should be disclosed on Schedule C and C-1 of your next report.

Although the Commission may take further legal action concerning the acceptance of an excessive contribution in the form of a loan, endorsement or guarantee, your prompt action will be taken into consideration. (11 CFR §103.3(b)(1) and (3))

Please note, you will not receive an additional notice from the Commission on this matter. Adequate responses must be received by the Commission on or before the due date noted above to be taken into consideration in determining whether audit action will be initiated. Failure to comply with the provisions of the Act may also result in an enforcement action against the committee. Any response submitted by your committee will be placed on the public record and will be considered by the Commission prior to taking enforcement action. **Requests for extensions of time in which to respond will not be considered.**

Electronic filers must file amendments (to include statements, designations and reports) in an electronic format and must submit an amended report in its entirety, rather than just those portions of the report that are being amended. For information about the report review process or specific filing information for your committee type, please visit www.fec.gov/help-candidates-and-committees. For more information about Requests for Additional Information (RFAI), why you received a letter, and how to respond, please visit www.fec.gov/help-candidates-and-committees/request-additional-information. Should you have any questions regarding this matter or wish to verify the adequacy of your response, please contact me on our toll-free number (800) 424-9530 (at the prompt press 5 to reach the Reports Analysis Division) or my local number (202) 694-1295.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeremiah R. Hempel". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jeremiah Hempel

Senior Campaign Finance Analyst