

To: Jackson, Ryan[jackson.ryan@epa.gov]
From: POLITICO Pro Energy Whiteboard
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Subject: EPA deputy nominee Wheeler represented ethanol group

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Andrew Wheeler, the nominee for EPA deputy administrator, worked for the ethanol group Growth Energy this year, according to his financial disclosure documents.

Wheeler, an attorney at Faegre Baker Daniels, was previously known to lobby for coal producer Murray Energy, among several other companies, as revealed in lobbying disclosures. But his [financial disclosure](#) shows Wheeler provided "strategic advice and counseling" rather than lobbying services to Growth Energy.

Growth Energy hired FBD for lobbying earlier this year, according to [records](#), but Wheeler was never named on those disclosures.

"We hired Faegre Baker Daniels for lobbying and consultant help on renewable fuels issues. Andrew Wheeler has not lobbied on our behalf but has provided consultant services," Growth Energy spokeswoman Jenni Roberson said in an email. Wheeler did not return a request for comment today.

Growth Energy was one of the groups that successfully sued EPA over its 2014-2016 Renewable Fuel Standard volumes. It has also opposed EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt's recent move to potentially weaken biodiesel requirements, a proposal that has angered several key corn state Republican senators and threatened to hold up several other EPA nominees.

The financial disclosure shows Wheeler also provided advice and counsel, but not lobbying work, to International Paper, Archer Daniels Midland and General Mills. Previously reported lobbying clients included Xcel Energy, Bear Head LNG and Energy Fuels Resources.

WHAT'S NEXT: Wheeler was nominated earlier this month and has yet to have a nomination hearing in the Senate.

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