



## Drumbeat: May 13, 2010

Posted by [Leanan](#) on May 13, 2010 - 9:19am

Topic: [Miscellaneous](#)

### [The triple crises of civilization](#)

The evidence is overwhelming. We are facing triple crises. Global warming is already happening. We are at or close to being at peak oil (and some say as result peak money) production. We have exceeded our carrying capacity and still adding 3 million people to the U.S. population and eighty million to the earth each year. Between the two of us we have read almost all of the books below and are deeply impressed that so many prominent environmentalists, scientists, spiritual leaders, and educators have written so many books about crisis and collapse in just the last few years.

We urge all who care about the future to read at least one book from each of the categories. In this time of greenwashing by corporations and politicians there is nothing more important that we can do than to be well informed about these issues. If you only have time or motivation to read one book then James Hansen's book, *The Storms of my Grandchildren*, is a must read. While there are many more books that have been written in each category we have listed what we think are the best four in terms of information and ideas on how to deal with the crises. While the reading may at times be discouraging it will also likely motivate people to action as it has us.

an empire. The United States, which inherited what was left of Europe's imperial role, never achieved the level of global dominance that European nations took for granted until 1914 – compare the British Empire, which directly ruled a quarter of the Earth's land surface, with the hole-and-corner arrangements that allow America to maintain garrisons in other people's countries around the world. Now the second and arguably more important source of Euro-American wealth and power – the exploitation of half a billion years of prehistoric sunlight in the form of fossil fuels – has peaked and entered on its own decline, with consequences that bid fair to be at least as drastic as those that followed the shattering of the Pax Europa in 1914.

### [Lean, green killing machines](#)

The US military is rushing to embrace sustainability. Its primary motive is not ethical. It is trying to keep pace with China in a strategic race to harness clean energy. Any future conflict between superpowers will almost certainly feature eco-weapons and green tactics. The oil-burning Americans are starting to realise how badly they are lagging behind.

This emerging race presents eco-minded campaigners and technologists with a dilemma - should they welcome the huge budgets being committed? Should they, perhaps, even take the military dollar, or should they campaign against the uses to which it is being put?

### [Michigan may reap gas fortune](#)

They call it "the shale gale": a welcome storm that blew full force into Michigan last week when bidders paid \$178 million for state land leases. In Michigan, that's a Texas-sized oil and gas sale, reaping in one day nearly what the state collected in total over the previous 81 years.

Even as the state invests millions in alternative energy, Michigan already may be sitting pretty, poised on the cutting edge of another energy revolution.

### [Credit Crisis Turning Into a Currency Crisis as Governments Devalue Currencies to Devalue Debt](#)

The wealth of humanity has been built on energy. Half the world's conventional oil supply is already used. That means that the quantity of oil produced each year will not increase much from the current level even as demand from developing countries like India and China increases. Wars over oil have already started. Energy prices will rise. We will see a substantial rise in the cost of food, as food production requires energy.

### [Galbraith: The danger posed by the deficit 'is zero'](#)

#### **EK: What are the policy implications of this view?**

**JG:** It says that we should be focusing on real problems and not fake ones. We have serious problems. Unemployment is at 10 percent. If we got busy and worked out things for the unemployed to do, we'd be much better off. And we can certainly afford it. We have an impending energy crisis and a climate crisis. We could spend a generation fixing those problems in a way that would rebuild our country, too. On the tax side, what you want to do is reverse the burden on working people. Since the beginning of the crisis, I've supported a payroll tax holiday so everyone gets an increase in their after-tax earnings so they can pay down their mortgages, which would be a good thing. You also want to encourage rich people to recycle their money, which is why I support the estate tax, which has accounted for an enormous number of our great universities and nonprofits and philanthropic organizations. That's one difference between us and Europe.

### [Mexico eyes US, European refineries for supply](#)

LA JOLLA, Calif. (Reuters) - Mexico state oil company Pemex will not build enough refineries to fully supply the Mexican market and may seek foreign partners to secure domestic supplies, its chief executive said on Wednesday.

Pemex depends on imports to meet more than 40 percent of Mexican gasoline demand and is building a new refinery to cut its reliance on foreign supplies, but CEO Juan Jose Suarez said the company was open to deals with foreign suppliers due to the high cost of new refinery capacity.

### [Mexico oil reform overly complicated for Pemex - CEO](#)

LA JOLLA, Calif. (Reuters) - Changes to Mexican energy law in 2008 gave state oil company Pemex new tools to battle falling oil output but also imposed more bureaucracy on the company, its chief executive said on Wednesday.

Juan Jose Suarez said Pemex was working to become more business-like but red tape, cumbersome oversight and government-set prices for refined products and petrochemicals made a full overhaul more difficult.

### [Fuel shortage shuts down 10 passenger trains](#)

KARACHI: Pakistan Railways shut down ten passenger trains on Thursday saying it is left with only three days of oil storage .

Railway authorities have also planned to shut down at least 120 non-revenue generating trains after a decrease in oil supply. The initial shutting down phase includes sixty routes with five per cent revenue generation.

### [Venezuela expropriates Mexican-owned food company](#)

CARACAS, Venezuela -- President Hugo Chavez's government ordered the "forced acquisition" Thursday of a Mexican-owned food company that is one of the largest operating in Venezuela.

A notice in the Official Gazette announced the expropriation of the property and assets of Molinos Nacionales CA, or Monaca.

### [Gazprom-Naftogaz merger absolutely pragmatic idea - Miller](#)

MOSCOW (Itar-Tass) -- The chief executive officer of Russia's gas giant Gazprom Alexei Miller and Ukraine's Fuel and Energy Minister Yuri Boiko have had a meeting at

Gazprom's head office in Moscow on Thursday.

The work to upgrade the Ukrainian gas pipeline system must proceed in close connection with the development of the unified gas supply system in Russia, Miller said afterwards.

### [When subsidised power is a lesser evil](#)

THE government of Bangladesh (GoB) will reportedly have to raise electricity prices substantially for consumers in the coming months or give around Tk 50 billion (Tk 5,000 crore) in subsidy a year. This is so because, what the reports said, the government has so far approved agreements for installation of 15 fuel oil-based rental and peaking power plants to generate 1,480 mw of high-cost electricity by 4 to 15 months.

### [China snaps up Penn West oil sands slice](#)

Penn West Energy Trust will sell a 45% stake in a planned oil sands project to China Investment Corporation for C\$817 million (\$805 million), the latest in a series of Canadian companies turning to China for cash to develop the massive resource.

### [Saudi Aramco Said to Cut Offer for Naphtha Supply](#)

(Bloomberg) -- Saudi Aramco, the world's largest state-owned oil company, lowered its offer for naphtha to be supplied in the second half of this year, three people with knowledge of the talks said.

### [On doomed rig, lapses sparked catastrophe](#)

(Reuters) - A cascade of human and mechanical failures likely caused last month's deadly offshore rig explosion and an undersea oil gusher that could be the worst U.S. environmental disaster, according to data gathered by congressional investigators and reviewed by experts.

### [Transocean Asks to Cap Rig Liability at \\$26.7 Million](#)

(Bloomberg) -- Transocean Ltd., the owner and operator of the oil rig leased to BP Plc which exploded last month and killed 11 men, has asked a U.S. judge to limit its liability to \$26.7 million.

The request, filed today in Houston federal court under a 150-year-old law originally designed for the shipping industry, applies to all litigation the company faces over the

explosion and spill.

### [The Paradox of Deep Water: Lots of Oil, Lots of Danger](#)

The ability to extract oil in hard-to-reach places has zoomed ahead. Disaster preparation has not.

### [Calculating rate of leak in gulf oil spill proves a difficult task](#)

The world has finally seen directly the turbulent plume of oil, gas and water billowing from a sliced steel pipe on the bottom of the Gulf of Mexico. But new video clips, released by BP Wednesday afternoon, haven't clarified one of the central unknowns in this crisis: Exactly how much oil is leaking into the gulf?

### [The Secret, 700-Million Gallon Oil Fix That Worked – and Might Save the Gulf](#)

There's a potential solution to the Gulf oil spill that neither BP, nor the federal government, nor anyone – save a couple intuitive engineers – seems willing to try. As The Politics Blog reported on Tuesday in an interview with former Shell Oil president John Hofmeister, the untapped solution involves using empty supertankers to suck the spill off the surface, treat and discharge the contaminated water, and either salvage or destroy the slick.

### [Gasoline Jumps to 1-Week High on Lower Refinery Rates, Supplies](#)

(Bloomberg) -- Gasoline jumped to the highest level in a week as refiners reduced rates for the first time in eight weeks and inventories fell unexpectedly. The profit for refining oil into gasoline rose to a 15-month high.

### [Philips' new LED light bulb to make incandescent bulbs obsolete](#)

Philip's new 12 watt wonder bulb is the best and the easiest way to meet terms with the world's energy crisis. Functioning with standard dimmers and emitting soft white glow, the latest green technology can last 25 times longer than a conventional incandescent. There has been no word about its pricing, but it is anticipated to hit the U.S. market by the fourth quarter of 2010.

### [Latin Americans targeting green energy](#)

A conclave of some of Latin America's leading energy officials that ended Wednesday in

La Jolla was tinged with green, with a number of talks focusing on how the shift to renewable power could help their countries gain more energy independence and extend their power grids into poor neighborhoods and rural areas.

The focus on renewables set this year's event apart from previous years, said Jeffrey Davidow, president of the Institute of the Americas, which has hosted the Latin American Energy Conference for 19 years.

### [Auto makers try to reverse slower sales with incentives](#)

IN a bid to reverse seemingly slower vehicle sales auto makers are keen to cut prices and offer incentives to lure buyers especially as the non-peak season for car purchases nears.

China's overall auto sales accelerated 34 percent in April from a year earlier, but they were slower than the 56 percent for March and 124 percent for January.

The sales also reversed by nearly 10 percent from March figures, according to the China Association of Automobile Manufacturers.

### [Builder of a 1975 Porsche 914 All-Electric DIY Conversion Fills Us In on The Process](#)

#### **Q: What got you interested in electric vehicles?**

**A:** I've been concerned for quite some time about the environmental impacts of single-passenger driving habits. Between peak oil, global warming, air pollution (both particulate and ozone), and water pollution (from gas stations and refining) I am convinced that we need a better way to get around town. My own personal commute is less than 15 miles round-trip, and I knew that this is similar to many others – the typical daily driving distance is less than 30 miles. So, all of this combined to push me toward wanting an electric vehicle, and to advocate for their widespread use.

### [A Fuel-Saving Car Engine in the Blink of an IRIS](#)

The IRIS engine works by expanding and contracting like the iris of an eye. Its creators say its greater working surface makes the IRIS more efficient than traditional piston-driven internal combustion.

### [Companies Put Restrictions On Research into GM Crops](#)

A battle is quietly being waged between the industry that produces genetically modified seeds and scientists trying to investigate the environmental impacts of engineered

crops. Although companies such as Monsanto have recently given ground, researchers say these firms are still loath to allow independent analyses of their patented — and profitable — seeds.

### [A Sustainable Hero For The Earth](#)

Kruse said being environmentally conscious has been a way of life for her since she was a child. She vividly remembers the first energy crisis in the 1970s when her father told her it was everyone's patriotic duty to conserve oil and support the president.

"That really stuck with me," Kruse said. "I've been aware of conserving resources ever since."

### [The triple crises of civilization](#)

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### [Venezuelan gas rig sinks in Caribbean](#)

CARACAS (Reuters) – A Venezuelan natural gas exploration rig sank in the Caribbean Sea early Thursday, but all 95 workers were evacuated safely and there was no leakage, the government said.

"Fortunately all our workers are safe and fortunately the well presents no risk to our environment," Oil Minister Rafael Ramirez told state TV, saying there was no gas escaping.

President Hugo Chavez announced the news via Twitter, saying all workers had been taken from the Aban Pearl rig, located close to Venezuela's far north east coast in a region close to the Caribbean islands such as Trinidad and Tobago.

### [Oil Falls a Third Day on Stronger Dollar, Rising U.S. Supplies](#)

(Bloomberg) -- Oil fell for a third day in New York as the strengthening dollar curbed investors' demand for alternative investments, and as U.S. crude inventories grew.

The Energy Department said crude inventories rose 1.95 million barrels last week to 362.5 million, the highest in almost a year. It was the 14th increase in 15 weeks. New York futures are trading at the biggest discount to London contracts since February 2009 after supplies at the Cushing, Oklahoma, delivery point jumped to a record.

### [LNG's Oil Link in Asia Weakens on Supply Glut](#)

(Bloomberg) -- The link between liquefied natural gas prices in Asia, the world's largest consumer of the cleaner-burning fuel, and oil prices is breaking down as a glut in capacity boosts supplies.

### [Shell, BG, Conoco May Combine Australia Gas Projects](#)

(Bloomberg) -- Australia's proposed resource tax may prompt Royal Dutch Shell Plc, ConocoPhillips, BG Group Plc and Santos Ltd. to merge as much as \$70 billion of gas projects targeting fuel shipments to China, Japan and South Korea.

The government's 40 percent tax on profits, starting in 2012, may reduce returns from the ventures that will tap coal-seam gas in Queensland for export as liquefied natural gas. That will make them less viable on their own, said Nik Burns, an analyst at RBS Morgans in Melbourne.

### [BP Disaster Strands Billions of Barrels of Offshore U.S. Crude](#)

(Bloomberg) -- A regulatory crackdown on offshore oil drilling after the fatal rig explosion in the Gulf of Mexico will delay development of U.S. deposits with billions of barrels of crude, energy producers and analysts said.

### [The end of offshore oil drilling? Not a chance](#)

Offshore drilling, especially of the deepwater kind, is highly risky because of the extreme depths and extreme pressures. Experience only goes so far because each oil disaster is like no other. If BP and its contractors, drilling platform operator Transocean and well-cementer Halliburton, had a reliable playbook, Macondo would not still be



leaking. Indeed, the offshore industry needs a drastic overhaul. A permanent ban on deepwater offshore drilling might have to come into effect.

It won't happen. Drilling bans will not come. The predicted slowdown in the offshore industry's growth will not happen. The reason is simple: Offshore is where the oil is.

### [Stupak: How did oil spill companies get permits?](#)

WASHINGTON – The chairman of a subcommittee delving into what happened at BP's blown-out oil well says he wants to talk with the federal service that is supposed to oversee drilling in the Gulf of Mexico.

Rep. Bart Stupak, a Michigan Democrat, told ABC's "Good Morning America" he wants to know why the Mining and Minerals Service gave permits to BP and the companies involved in various aspects of the well and rig. The service enforces drilling regulations and collects the royalties oil companies pay to the government.

### [US agency admits lax enforcement of oil drilling](#)

NEW ORLEANS, Louisiana (AFP) – A US official acknowledged Wednesday that the oil and gas industry largely polices its own drilling operations in the Gulf of Mexico with little government supervision.

At a hearing into the deadly rig explosion that led to a massive, growing oil spill, the Minerals Management Service official said the regulatory agency did not enforce compliance with its "safety alerts" on underwater blowout preventers and allowed oil companies to inspect their own drilling equipment.

### [Obama brain trust battles oil spill](#)

HOUSTON, Texas (AFP) – A brain trust of scientists has been assembled by President Barack Obama's administration to help BP cap the well that has been gushing oil into the Gulf of Mexico for nearly three weeks.

Secretary of Energy Steven Chu, a Nobel prize-winning physicist, told reporters Wednesday that the "intellectual horsepower of the country is engaged in solving this problem."

### [US energy secretary says hopes rising over oil spill](#)

HOUSTON, Texas (AFP) – Hopes of containing the massive oil spill in the Gulf of

Mexico are rising, US Energy Secretary Steven Chu said Wednesday after meeting top engineers and scientists at a BP command center.

Chu, a Nobel prize-winning physicist, spoke as crews were adding the finishing touches to a containment box on the sea bed that will be placed over the main leak to potentially contain the gushing oil.

"Things are looking up," Chu told reporters in Houston, Texas. "Progress is being made."

### [Anadarko May Take Biggest Hit From Spill as BP's Silent Partner](#)

(Bloomberg) -- BP Plc is battling a Gulf of Mexico oil spill, is a defendant in more than 100 lawsuits and is testifying before Congress about what caused an April 20 rig explosion and fire. Anadarko Petroleum Corp. may be taking the bigger financial hit.

### [Shrimpers, fishermen, hotels feel oil spill's trickledown effect](#)

GULFPORT, Miss. — Five years ago, Hurricane Katrina took the 20-year-old office building that housed Ship Island Excursions, destroying it in no time.

Three years later, Hurricane Gustav took the trailer brought in to replace the office.

Now, the Deepwater Horizon oil spill threatens the very survival of the company that has sustained four generations of the Skrmetta family here, on the shores of the Gulf of Mexico.

### [Energy's costs finally meet the eyes](#)

When the Deepwater Horizon oil rig sank to the bottom of the Gulf of Mexico on April 22, 11 men were missing and a gushing well was emptying into the sea. It happened to be Earth Day.

A week later, Interior Secretary Ken Salazar announced federal approval for the nation's first offshore wind farm in Nantucket Sound near Hyannis, Mass., which will turn an aquatic area the size of Manhattan into an oceanic-industrial complex with 130 massive turbines reaching 440 feet into the sky. Both are reminders that all energy comes at a price.

### [Poll: Good marks for Obama on spill, more drilling](#)

WASHINGTON — The Gulf of Mexico oil spill hasn't stained President Barack Obama

nor dimmed the public's desire for offshore energy drilling, according to a new Associated Press-GfK Poll.

While some conservative pundits, such as Rush Limbaugh, have called this "Obama's Katrina," that's not how the public feels, the poll found. BP PLC, which owned the well that has gushed more than 4 million gallons since an Apr. 20 oil rig explosion, is getting more of the public's ire.

### [Long-term effects on Gulf sea life unknown](#)

NEW ORLEANS — Marine scientists warn that submerged oil and chemical dispersants in the widening Gulf of Mexico oil disaster could have long-lasting effects on the region's sea life, from tiny plankton to giant squids.

### [Gulf Spill Boosts BP, Transocean Debt Costs](#)

(Bloomberg) -- Energy companies' borrowing costs are rising at the fastest pace in 17 months after an oil rig leased by BP Plc exploded, killing 11 people, spewing crude into the Gulf of Mexico and prompting a moratorium on new drilling.

### [After the Big Switch, dreams of a brave new world for gas supply](#)

While most people think of Bord Gais as a gas supplier, the company has transformed itself under Mr Mullins' leadership and may one day have more customers for its cut-price electricity than for its gas.

### [Coal India May Save \\$555 Million on Employee Costs](#)

(Bloomberg) -- Coal India Ltd., the world's largest producer of the fuel, may save about 25 billion rupees (\$555 million) in employee costs over the next 10 years as it increases the use of machines at its mines.

"The total number of employees will come down because of mechanization and through natural attrition," Partha Bhattacharyya, chairman of the Kolkata-based company, said in a telephone interview today. "The savings will help us boost our bottom line."

### [Russian mine search halted, death toll reaches 66](#)

MOSCOW (Reuters) – Russian rescue workers on Thursday stopped searching for 24 men still missing after a mine disaster that killed at least 66 because of fears of new underground blasts, the emergencies ministry said.

A methane gas blast ripped through the Raspadskaya mine on Saturday night, followed hours later by a stronger explosion that wrecked the main ventilation shaft and badly damaged buildings on the surface.

### [Boeing, Exxon Say New Iran Sanctions Would Hurt Global Sales](#)

(Bloomberg) -- Boeing Co. and Exxon Mobil Corp. are lobbying to fend off tightened sanctions against Iran that business groups say may cost \$25 billion in U.S. exports.

### [China's role grows in debate over Iran sanctions](#)

BEIJING — As world powers wrangle this month at the United Nations about how to handle Iran's nuclear plans, China is attempting to balance its thirst for Iranian oil and natural gas with its ambition to be a diplomatic heavyweight.

Tough sanctions against Iran could have serious economic consequences for China, one of the five veto-wielding permanent members of the U.N. Security Council. Any significant disruption of China's oil and gas supplies, coupled with setbacks to the country's development deals in those sectors, could hamper Beijing's scramble to ensure that its booming economic growth keeps pace with the rising expectations of its people.

China, the world's second-largest consumer of oil, gets about 11 percent of its oil imports from Iran and has signed billions of dollars in contracts for Iranian oil and gas projects. The Financial Times recently estimated that Beijing is now Tehran's largest trading partner.

### [Afghan war costs now outpace Iraq's](#)

WASHINGTON — The monthly cost of the war in Afghanistan, driven by troop increases and fighting on difficult terrain, has topped Iraq costs for the first time since 2003 and shows no sign of letting up.

Pentagon spending in February, the most recent month available, was \$6.7 billion in Afghanistan compared with \$5.5 billion in Iraq. As recently as fiscal year 2008, Iraq was three times as expensive; in 2009, it was twice as costly.

### [Obama: Afghan's partner for the long term](#)

WASHINGTON — The U.S. military, diplomatic and economic commitment to Afghanistan will remain for years, President Obama promised his Afghan counterpart Wednesday as part of a week-long mission to ease tensions between the two nations.

### [Virginia seeks I-95 tolls near North Carolina border](#)

RICHMOND, Va. — Virginia's governor has asked federal highway officials to establish tolls on Interstate 95 near the North Carolina border to pay for repairs that he says are sorely needed along the busy interstate.

The tolls of \$1 or \$2 for each axle would generate \$30 million to \$60 million annually, Gov. Bob McDonnell wrote in a letter to U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood.

### [Green practices conflict with homeowners association rules](#)

Early last year, Larry Lohrman, a homeowner in Salem, Ore., decided to try to cut his energy consumption by installing solar panels on his roof. He researched the panels, hired an installer and put a down payment on a 3,000-watt solar installation.

Lohrman's plans were interrupted abruptly by a letter from his homeowners association at Creekside Estates denying permission for the installation because it would violate the private community's covenants.

It's a scene that's being played out across the country. As homeowners increasingly seek to turn to green practices such as using clotheslines instead of dryers or moving to solar or wind power, they are finding those plans in conflict with the rules of homeowners associations that encourage conformity in order to maintain property values.

### [UK's largest renewable energy show set for Aberdeen](#)

It's big, busy and as a result, bound to be buzzy and, with good reason, has been described as "the AGM of the renewable energy world"..... All-Energy 2010, the tenth in the annual series, opens in a week's time on Wednesday 19 May at Aberdeen Exhibition and Conference Centre and is the largest renewable energy exhibition and conference ever held in the UK. There are over 450 exhibiting companies from 16 countries (filling 25% more space than All-Energy '09) and registrations are coming in thick and fast.

*(Matt Simmons is listed as a speaker.)*

### [USDA, DOE announce biomass funding](#)

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- The USDA and the Department of Energy (DOE) recently announced up to \$33 million in funding for research and development of technologies and processes to produce biofuels, bioenergy and high-value biobased products, subject to annual appropriations.

These projects will support the Obama administration's comprehensive energy strategy

of increasing the nation's energy, economic and national security by reducing our reliance on foreign oil and reducing greenhouse gases, according to a news release.

### [Britain Says New Nuclear Plants Can Proceed Without Subsidies](#)

(Bloomberg) -- New nuclear power plants will be built in the U.K. if utilities pay for them, said Chris Huhne, who was named yesterday as climate change secretary in a coalition government divided on the merits of atomic reactors.

Companies including E.ON AG, Electricite de France SA and Centrica Plc want to replace aging reactors in the U.K. as pressure grows to reduce emissions from fossil fuels. Huhne's Liberal Democrats opposed atomic power while the Conservatives, their coalition partner, supported it. The parties yesterday said the Liberals will abstain on nuclear votes.

### [Japan's Sojitz to enter US Solar Power business: report](#)

TOKYO (AFP) – Japanese trading house Sojitz Corp. is planning to enter the solar power generation business through a 100 million dollar investment in a US firm, it was reported Thursday.

Sojitz will take a minority stake in California-based Solar Power Partners Inc. The third-largest US solar power developer plans to build up to 10 solar farms by 2015, the business daily Nikkei reported.

### [Climate-energy bill debuts in Senate, but prospects are dim](#)

Nearly a year after the House of Representatives approved a comprehensive climate-energy bill, two US senators on Wednesday unveiled their own plan for weaning America off fossil fuel and slashing carbon emissions tied to global warming.

### [The Kerry-Lieberman Climate and Energy Bill: Is it a 'disaster' or a 'jumpstart'?](#)

The Center for Biological Diversity calls the bill "a disaster for the climate," that "moves us one baby step forward and at least three giant steps back in any rational effort to address the climate crisis." Friends of Earth calls the bill "dangerous," arguing that it would undercut existing efforts to reduce carbon pollution while handing "billions in giveaways to corporate polluters, including the oil, coal, nuclear and agribusiness industries."

But 21 prominent environmental groups from Al Gore's Alliance for Climate Protection and the National Audubon Society to the Union of Concerned Scientists World Wildlife

Fund, welcomed the bill as a good step forward.

### [Bill would let coastal states say no to offshore drilling](#)

WASHINGTON — Coastal states could veto offshore drilling plans under long-awaited legislation to curb global warming unveiled Wednesday.

The bill, sponsored by Sens. John Kerry, D-Mass., and Joe Lieberman, I-Conn., would allow states to opt out of federal drilling up to 75 miles from their shores, a concession to lawmakers concerned about offshore exploration in the wake of the Gulf Coast oil spill.



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