



Environmental Historians Respond to Gulf Oil Spill

Several ASEH members have written op-ed pieces about the Gulf oil spill, providing historical analysis. A sample of their work appears below. ASEH members and environmental historians who would like their work posted on this page can send links to director@aseh.net

From **Brian Black**, professor of history and environmental studies at Pennsylvania State University and author of *Petrolia: The Landscape of America's First Oil Boom* (Johns Hopkins, 2003):

“Gulf Spill Serves as Referendum on the High-Energy Existence,” *History News Network*

<http://hnn.us/articles/126494.html>

Online interview: <http://live.psu.edu/story/47319>

From **Carolyn Merchant**, University of California-Berkeley; [click here](#) to read her article from *ASEH News* (summer 2010).

From **Tyler Priest**, director of Global Studies in the C.T. Bauer College of Business, University of Houston, and author of *The Offshore Imperative: Shell Oil's Search for Petroleum in Postwar America* (Texas A&M Press, 2007):

“Myths from the Right about the Disaster in the Gulf,” *History News Network*

<http://www.hnn.us/articles/128240.html>, Week of June 28, 2010.

“The Ties that Bind MMS and Big Oil,” *Politico.com* op-ed, June 9, 2010,

<http://www.politico.com/news/stories/0610/38270.html>.

“The Problem with Human Error,” *New York Times Room for Debate Blog*, “Rules, Revolving Doors, and the Oil Industry,” May 5, 2010,

<http://roomfordebate.blogs.nytimes.com/2010/05/05/rules-revolving-doors-and-the-oil-industry/>

Perspectives on the Gulf Oil Spill by energy historians: An H-energy roundtable:

<http://www.h-net.org/~energy/roundtables/henergyroundtables.html>

Introduction, by **Robert Lifset**:

http://www.h-net.org/~energy/roundtables/Lifset_Intro.html

"A Catastrophic Accident of Normal Proportions," by **Peter Shulman**, Case Western Reserve:

http://www.h-net.org/~energy/roundtables/Shulman_Gulf.html

"Louisiana's Wetlands: A Battered and Bruised Landscape," by **Jason Theriot**, University of Houston:

<http://www.h-net.org/~energy/roundtables/Theriot.gulf.html>

"The Ties that Bind MMS and Big Oil," by **Tyler Priest**, University of Houston:

http://www.h-net.org/~energy/roundtables/Priest_Gulf.html

"Defining the Problem," by **Christopher Jones**, Harvard University:

http://www.h-net.org/~energy/roundtables/Jones_Gulf.html

Note: ASEH members currently serve on advisory boards and are participating in cleanup efforts in the Gulf; watch for articles in the fall issue of *ASEH News* in September 2010.