



# The Mulvaney Pipeline

## Alternative Energy Not A New Concept

The recent deep water drilling accident in the Gulf of Mexico has increased interest in seeking new sources of alternative energy. The gulf spill has the potential of becoming the worst environment catastrophe in recent history. We all know oil supplies are not endless. There will come a day very soon when oil is no longer a viable fuel. Most people do not realize that moving from one depleted inefficient energy source to a better type fuel has a long and proven history. One need only look back a century to see this progression.

### Coal as an alternative to wood

In the late medieval period, coal was the new alternative fuel to save the society from overuse of the dominant fuel, wood: Europeans had lived in the midst of vast forests throughout the earlier medieval centuries. After 1250 they became so skilled at deforestation that by 1500 AD they were running short of wood for heating and cooking... By 1500 Europe was on the edge of a fuel disaster, from which it was saved in the sixteenth century by the burning of soft coal.

### Petroleum as an alternative to whale oil

Whale oil was the dominant form of lubrication and fuel for lamps in the early 19th century, but by mid century and the depletion of the whale stocks, whale oil prices were skyrocketing and could not compete with the newly discovered source of cheap petroleum from Pennsylvania in 1859.

### Alcohol as an alternative to fossil fuels

In 1917, Alexander Graham Bell advocated ethanol from corn and other foodstuffs as an alternative to coal and oil, stating that the world was quickly depleting these fuels. For Bell, the problem requiring an alternative was lack of renewability. Since the 1970s, Brazil has had an ethanol fuel program which has allowed the country to become the world's second largest producer of ethanol. Brazil's ethanol fuel program uses modern equipment and cheap sugar cane as feedstock, and the residual cane-waste is used to produce heat and power. There are no longer light vehicles in Brazil running on pure gasoline. By the end of 2008 there were 35,000 filling stations throughout Brazil with at least one ethanol pump.

### Coal gasification as an alternative to expensive petroleum

In the 1970s, President Jimmy Carter's administration advocated coal gasification as an alternative to expensive imported oil. The program, including the Synthetic Fuels Corporation was scrapped when petroleum prices plummeted in the 1980s.

### Renewable energy as an alternative to non-renewable energy

Renewable energy is energy generated from natural resources—such as sunlight, wind, rain, tides and geothermal heat—which naturally replenished. When comparing the processes for producing energy, there remain several fundamental differences between renewable energy and fossil fuels. The process of producing oil, coal, or natural gas fuel is a difficult and demanding process that requires a great deal of complex equipment, physical and chemical processes. On the other hand, alternative energy can be widely produced with basic equipment and naturally basic processes. Wood, the most renewable and available alternative energy, burns the same amount of carbon it would emit if it degraded naturally.



## WATERWORLD BECOMES A REALITY FOR BP SPILL

Actor Kevin Costner and his scientist brother Dan have developed a machine that uses a "centrifuge mechanism to separate oil from water and recycle the crude at the same time." And it appears to be working.

Officials said skimmer vessels will pump oily water onto barges equipped with Costner's oil separator centrifuges. Each of these unique centrifuges can process 200,000 gallons a day, separating gunk from water. Costner said he "didn't come to save the day" but is gratified the technology is being deployed.

As we all helplessly watched the Exxon Valdez oil spill off the coast of Alaska, no one could believe the devastation that was caused. The majority of spilled oil was picked up manually as it reached the shore. Many thought that there must be a better way, but few were moved to action. Kevin Costner was one who made the commitment to come up with a better way to clean up crude oil spills well before they reached the shore.

Current ocean going oil skimmers are very inefficient. Each gallon of oil picked up also picks up 9 gallons of sea water. The dismal 10% efficiency factors is further compounded by the need to transport vast amounts of sea water with the collected oil. Once transported to shore, the contained mixture can be manually decanted, leaving a watery mess to dispose of. Costner's technology, which has been around for the past 10 years without any commercial interest expressed turns the efficiency tables around. Utilization of barge mounted cyclonic oil separators and strainers allows the oil skimmers to discharge their contaminated loads through the skimmers before entering the barge. Simply stated, the separators are 95-99% efficient in removing oil from water. The clean water is discharged over the side as the concentrated oil is stored in the barge. When full, the barge is moved to shore containing 90 to 99% oil which can be reclaimed as crude oil.

It took one of the worst environmental disasters of modern history to wake up the public and oil companies. Now after languishing for 10 years, Costner's technology is getting the attention it deserves. Hats off to Kevin and Dan Costner for their dedication to this effort. Let's hope that we're not too late to save the Gulf of Mexico from our own shortsightedness.

## THINGS YOU OUGHT TO KNOW ABOUT

- During the Great London Smog of 1952 the air had a pH of 2 about the same as the acid in a lemon.
- Eighty percent of the deaths that occur in U.S. casinos are caused by "sudden heart attack."
- Natural blonds have more hair. They have approximately 46% more hair follicles than the average person.
- Your odds of dying from a fatal air crash and from being accidentally shot are nearly the same.
- French warning label on cigarette boxes state: "Smoking may cause a slow and painful death."
- World's oldest fire is from a coal seam in Australia's Burning Mountain. It has been burning for 6,000 yrs.
- There are 60,000 miles of blood vessels in the human body.
- Babies heads are 25% of their length at birth, 10% as adults.
- Over 20 billion catalogs are printed a year in the US, or about 60 catalogs for each man, woman and child.
- More people are killed by donkeys each year than are killed in plane crashes.
- The average U.S. restaurant meal is 70% larger than the average meal made at home.
- Owning a functional flamethrower is legal in 40 U.S. states.
- Injury from plane crashes
- Studies show marital problems cause the body to heal injuries far more slowly. Note: For faster healing please refer to the self help guide for men (below).

## 10 Worst Oil Spills in History

### Kuwait - 1991 - 520 million gallons

Iraqi forces opened the valves of several oil wells in order to slow the invasion of American troops. The oil slick was four inches thick and covered 4,000 square miles of ocean.

### Mexico - 1980 - 100 million gallons

An accident in an oil well caused an explosion which then caused the well to collapse. The well remained open, spilling 30,000 gallons a day into the ocean for a full year.

### Trinidad and Tobago - 1979 - 90 million gallons

During a tropical storm off the coast of Trinidad and Tobago, a Greek oil tanker collided with another ship, and lost nearly its entire cargo.

### Russia - 1994 - 84 million gallons

A broken pipeline in Russia leaked for eight months before it was noticed and repaired.

### Persian Gulf - 1983 - 80 million gallons

A tanker collided with a drilling platform which, eventually, collapsed into the sea. The well continued to spill oil into the ocean for seven months before it was repaired.

### South Africa - 1983 - 79 million gallons

A tanker caught fire and was abandoned before sinking 25 miles off the coast of Saldanha Bay.

### France - 1978 - 69 million gallons

A tanker's rudder was broken in a severe storm, despite several ships responding to its distress call, the ship ran aground and broke in two. It's entire payload was dumped into the English Channel.

### Angola - 1991 - more than 51 million gallons

A tanker exploded, exact quantity of spill unknown.

### Italy - 1991 - 45 million gallons

A tanker exploded and sank off the coast of Italy and continued leaking it's oil into the ocean for 12 years.

### Odyssey Oil Spill - 1988 - 40 million gallons

700 nautical miles off the cost of Nova Scotia.

## The Ultimate Self-Help Guide for MEN



9 Words translated for better understanding.

1. **FINE:** This is the word women use to end an argument when they are right and you need to shut up.
2. **FIVE MINUTES:** If she is getting dressed, this means a half an hour. Five minutes is only five minutes if you have just been given five more minutes to watch the game before helping around the house.
3. **NOTHING:** This is the calm before the storm. This means something, and you should be on your toes. Arguments that begin with nothing usually end in fine.
4. **GO AHEAD:** This is a dare, not permission. Don't Do It!
5. **LOUD SIGH:** This is actually a word, but is a non-verbal statement often misunderstood by men. A loud sigh means she thinks you are an idiot and wonders why she is wasting her time standing here and arguing with you about nothing. (Refer back to # 3 for the meaning of nothing.)
6. **THAT'S OKAY:** This is one of the most dangerous statements a women can make to a man. That's okay means she wants to think long and hard before deciding how and when you will pay for your mistake.
7. **THANKS:** A woman is thanking you, do not question, or faint. Just say you're welcome. (Special note - This is true, unless she says 'Thanks a lot' - that is PURE sarcasm and she is not thanking you at all. DO NOT say 'you're welcome'. That will bring on a 'whatever').
8. **WHATEVER:** Is a woman's way of saying you're a horses a\_\_.
9. **DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT, I GOT IT:** Another dangerous statement, meaning this is something that a woman has told a man to do several times, but is now doing it herself. This will later result in a man asking 'What's wrong?' For the woman's response refer to item 3.



## What the Heck is it?

If you can name the item pictured, you may  
**WIN A MULVANEY MECHANICAL  
Leather Jacket**

If you e-mail your entry, you must write "NEWSLETTER CONTEST" in the subject line to avoid our SPAM filter. Please mail to [janette@mulvaneyinc.com](mailto:janette@mulvaneyinc.com)

Just like this one



If multiple correct answers are received, a winner will be selected at random.

## The answer to last quarter's quiz is:

A voting box for yea and nay votes. Each voter is given a white marble and a black marble. They vote yes by placing a white marble in the box or a black marble if their vote is no. This is a secret ballot and the vote is carried by the majority of one color or the other. Hence the term "Black balling"

Donald Hedgeland  
Hubert Barnes  
Ernesto Hodgson  
Bill Sapienza  
Ed Allan

Whiting-Turner  
Local 777  
Preferred Utilities  
Sapienza & Lessig  
Ryer Associates



## WHAT'S GOIN' ON?

Jul 27 – 30 <sup>th</sup>	Mason Contractors Assoc Mtg	Chicago IL
Sep 3 – 7 <sup>th</sup>	Home Design & Remodeling Show	Miami FL
Sep 15 <sup>th</sup>	Construction Institute Golf Classic	Farmington CT
Sep 15 – 17 <sup>th</sup>	Plumbing and Hydronics Expo	Baltimore MD
Oct 3 – 8 <sup>th</sup>	National Safety Council 2010 Expo	San Diego CA
Oct 16 – 18 <sup>th</sup>	NSC National Congress & Expo	Orlando FL
Oct 27 – 29 <sup>th</sup>	IFMA World Workplace	Atlanta GA
Oct 27 – 30 <sup>th</sup>	PHCC Connect 2010	Las Vegas NV
Nov 16 – 19 <sup>th</sup>	RETA National Conf & Equip show	Portland OR
Nov 17 – 19 <sup>th</sup>	Greenbuild International Conf & Expo	Chicago IL
Jan 31-Feb 2 <sup>nd</sup>	AHR Expo	Las Vegas NV

Just remember, there's a right way and a wrong way to do everything and the wrong way is to keep trying to make everybody else do it the right way.

M\*A\*S\*H, Colonel Potter



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