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NEWSROOM

Logan on Impact of BP Liability

Professor David Logan talks about what's at stake for BP as the final leg of arguments begins over the 2010 Gulf of Mexico spill -- its cause, impact, and price tag.



Dozens of lawyers will return to a New Orleans federal courtroom Tuesday (Jan. 20) to begin the final leg of arguments over the 2010 Gulf of Mexico spill -- its cause, its impact, and, ultimately, its price tag in pollution fines. [...]

BP reports it has set aside \$43 billion to cover spill costs, including more than \$25 billion for litigation and claims.

"If nothing else the legal expense that was plowed into this will be a cautionary tale for deepwater exploration in places like the Gulf and maybe other places as well," **said David Logan, a law professor at Roger Williams University in Rhode Island.**



The civil trial over the oil spill will come to a close nearly five years after the April 20, 2010 explosion of the Deepwater Horizon drilling rig that killed 11 men and set off an 87-day oil gusher into the Gulf. [...]

Regardless of the ultimate penalty, **Logan said** the BP oil spill trial will prompt corporate leaders both inside and outside the oil industry to take a harder look at how safely they operate.

"There's no way BP or Transocean wouldn't want to have this one back and do it all over again," **Logan said**. "Forget about the money and forget about the black eye. You're talking about one of the world's largest companies tied up in knots for four or five years because of the decisions made on the fly by relatively low level employees."