



Texas Tech environmentalist says BP spill worst ever

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Authorites are scrambling to clean up the oil spill but the damage is done.

AP Photo/Gerald Hebert

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Texas Tech University's Environmental and Human Health Director Ronald Kendall says BP oil spill in the gulf could be the worst in history. He would know, he was at the Exxon-Valdez oil spill. According to Kendall, this is a bigger spill and will have much worse consequences for the enviroment.

[A report from KCBD.com](#) put it in perspective. The spill is long enough to stretch from Lubbock to Amarillo and wide enough to stretch from Lubbock to New Mexico. In short, it is huge. Whether the oil makes it ashore in a few days or eventually gets pushed toward the coast during hurricane season, it seems almost inevitable that some of it will make it to land.

This has all the making of a huge enviromental disaster as well as a political one. Washington politicians had been talking about drilling offshore. That is almost certainly going to be dead now. It will not even matter if it can be done safely in the near future. Opponents of drilling will simply bring up this accident and dare politicians to vote for drilling.

The new political reality is that any new offshore drilling is dead. In fairness, why should the American people think that companies can drill safely? People all along the gulf coast are about to see the evidence against trusting the safety of drilling. The evidence will come floating on to their shores and altering or destroying ecosystems as it goes.