Subject: Not Enough Pigs In The Oil Business
Posted by FredT on Wed, 09 Aug 2006 12:18:11 GMT
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It turns out BP's Alaskan pipeline that spilled 267,000 gallons of crude oil on the tundra and has been shut down because of previously undetected corrosion was exempt from regulatory oversight because such pipelines are considered low risk for ruptures. That means BP was permitted to follow its own inspection regimen, and the pipleine was last "pigged" in 1998. In spite of this mishap, BP's deplorable safety record at its Texas City refinery, and their near loss of a Gulf of Mexico production platform, BP CEO Lord John Brown, who received a million dollar raise last year, was named a "green" executive by Vanity Fair magazine a few months ago. It appears to be there are too many pigs in BP senior management and not enough in their pipelines. But I'm confident this will change because BP is launching a multi million dollar image enhancement campaign. To me the most unconscionable aspect of all this is that each BP accident results in a production loss that raises crude oil / gas prices and increases their already record profits even more. It's kinda like baseball would be if it were legal for the pitcher to bean the batter every time.

Subject: Re: Not Enough Pigs In The Oil Business
Posted by Manualblock on Wed, 09 Aug 2006 13:06:17 GMT
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BP's VP for PR was on Fox the other night "Explaining" what "Really" happened and why it is No Big Deal. I think you may be right about this Fred. According to studies people become immune to advertising and PR manipulation over time. I believe they become desensitised and eventually adopt a Laizes Faire atitude that creates a culture of ambiguity equally as bad as the PR itself.

Subject: Re: The Power of Oil Business
Posted by wunhuanglo on Sat, 12 Aug 2006 18:31:32 GMT
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As far as I know Alaska is still in the US. We smart pig our lines every five years, to report the line operating conditions and physical condition the national pipeline database. I'll bet BP petitioned for exemption based on the fact that they're not a common carrier and the application of huge amounts of cash in the right places.Crude oil pipelines are hardly low risk - especially at the head of the production chain - the produced waters at the wells are extremely corrosive and anaerobic bacteria can puncture a pipeline in a couple of years - everyone knows this. Everyone, including BP - they just tried to get away with as much as possible.

Subject: Re: The Power of Oil Business
Posted by Manualblock on Sat, 12 Aug 2006 20:04:59 GMT
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They claimed that there was no water entering the lines at the pumping stations. So they needed less maintainence. I don't know why the water issue was different for their supply lines. They found much of the pipe to be 80% corroded.

Subject: Re: The Power of Oil Business
Posted by wunhuanglo on Sun, 13 Aug 2006 12:54:21 GMT
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"I don't know why the water issue was different"Eggszachery!