



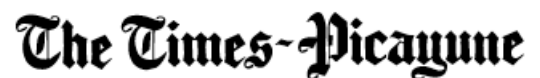
A SAMPLING OF WHAT MEDIA ARE SAYING ABOUT BP FINES & GULF COAST RESTORATION

MOBILE (AL) Press-Register
Editorial, March 29, 2011



“ Today, more than 140 women from five states will be in Washington to urge Congress to set aside 80 percent of fines from the oil spill to help their states recover. The case they’re making is that it’s in the nation’s best interest to immediately spend a large part of the fine money on the region that was damaged the most in the disaster. We wholeheartedly agree.... They speak for all of us as they urge lawmakers to do what’s right for the Gulf Coast and for the nation.”

NEW ORLEANS TIMES-PICAYUNE
Editorial, April 3, 2011



“Time is of the essence. Restoration efforts simply cannot wait. Experts have said we have only a few more years to make meaningful efforts to reverse decades of coastal wetlands loss in Louisiana, which suffered the brunt of the oil spill's damage.... Now it is up to Congress to act. Gulf Coast lawmakers need to put any differences they have aside and get a bill passed that ensures BP's fines will become an investment to repair this region and secure its future.”

HOUSTON CHRONICLE
Editorial, April 16, 2011



“The money collected from Gulf polluters must be returned to the areas harmed by the spill. The Gulf needs our witness to ensure that the Forgotten Coast isn't forgotten again in its hour of extreme need.”

NEW YORK TIMES
Editorial, April 15, 2011



The administration correctly saw the spill as a chance to help underwrite a huge restoration effort, drawing on the \$5 billion to \$20 billion in civil and criminal penalties BP is likely to owe. To jump-start the effort, the White House may ask BP to make an advance payment on these penalties. But none of that can happen without Congress. Under current law, the fines would flow mostly to a fund to clean up future spills.