

Koch-Sponsored Climate Denier Alex Epstein To Testify On Big Oil's Behalf

SUMMARY: Alex Epstein is a Koch-funded “philosopher” who frequently pushes climate denial and while promoting the increased use of fossil fuels. Epstein is the founder and president of the for-profit Center for Industrial Progress. His long history of anti-climate activities include:

- -Denying climate change and dismissing concerns over climate catastrophes.
- -Pushing for increased fossil fuel usage in part by claiming it is “a moral crime” to oppose the oil and gas industry.
- -Charging exorbitant fees speaking fees (a “usual rate” of \$23,500) and speaking to some of the biggest oil corporations in the country.
- -Opposing flaring reductions and the Paris Climate Accords, by the American Petroleum Institute.
- -Providing pro-oil, anti-climate talking points to officials, including Texas regulators and Governor Greg Abbott following the Texas blackouts.
- -And opposing government mask mandates and shutdowns during coronavirus, even blaming the green movement for allegedly worsening the crisis.

The Center For Industrial Progress Also Received A Covid-19 Bailout – over \$47,000 through the Paycheck Protection Program.

Alex Epstein Background And The Center For Industrial Progress

Alex Epstein Is A “Philosopher” Who Founded A “For-Profit Think Tank” Funded In Part By The Koch Brothers That Pushes Pro-Fossil Fuel Talking Points

After Big Oil CEOs Dodge An Invitation To Testify Before Congress, A Koch-Funded “Philosopher” Will Testify On Their Behalf

The House Natural Resources Subcommittee On Oversight Invited Three Oil Execetives To Testify At A Hearing. “Rep. Katie Porter is making good on her promise to ask tough questions of the oil and gas industry in her new role as chair of the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations. The California Democrat's aggressive pursuit of answers will begin in earnest this month. Yesterday, Porter announced that her first hearing, May 19, will ‘examine the contributions of the oil and gas sector to jobs and the economy.’ To that end, she is inviting the CEOs of three oil companies to testify, according to screenshots of three cover letters she posted on Twitter addressed to William Thomas of EOG Resources Inc.,

Darren Woods of Exxon Mobil Corp. and Richard Muncrief of Devon Energy Corp.” [E&E, [05/07/21](#)]

- **The Oil CEOs Declined Their Invitation.** “On Wednesday, May 19, at 1:00 p.m. Eastern time, the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, led by Chair Katie Porter (D-Calif.), will hold a virtual, fully remote oversight hearing on taxpayer benefits given to the oil and gas industry, what economic gains the public does or does not get in exchange for those benefits, and the accuracy of industry claims about job creation and job retention.
 - Witnesses include:
 - Laura Zachary
Co-Director, Apogee Economics & Policy
 - Michael Patrick Smith Author and former oil field worker
 - Tim Stretton
Policy Analyst, Project on Government Oversight
 - Alex Epstein (minority witness), Center for Industrial Progress [House Natural Resources, accessed [05/18/21](#)]

Alex Epstein—A Koch-Backed, Climate-Denying “Philosopher” Will Testify On The Oil Corporations’ Behalf

Alex Epstein Is The President And Founder The Center For Industrial Progress, A “For-Profit Think-Tank.” “Center for Industrial Progress (CIP) is a for-profit think-tank seeking to bring about a new industrial revolution. [...] Alex Epstein is a philosopher who argues that “human flourishing” should be the guiding principle of industrial and environmental progress. He founded Center for Industrial Progress (CIP) in 2011 to offer a positive, pro-human alternative to the Green movement.” [Center For Industrial Progress, About, accessed [05/18/21](#)]

- **Alex Epstein Is A Philosopher, Not A Scientist.** “Committee ranking member Barbara Boxer (D-Calif.) said that Epstein was not a scientist. When he pushed back that he was a philosopher and qualified to speak on the subject of climate change, Boxer cut him off.” [E&E News, [04/13/16](#)]

Alex Epstein Wrote “The Moral Case For Fossil Fuels” Arguing For Increased Fossil Fuel Use. “Epstein is the author of The Moral Case for Fossil Fuels (Penguin, 2014), a New York Times bestseller arguing that if we look at the whole picture, human flourishing requires that humanity use more fossil fuels not less.” [Center For Industrial Progress, About, accessed [05/18/21](#)]

Alex Epstein Has Received Money From The Koch Brothers And Worked With PragerU, A Right-Wing Organization Affiliated With The Fracking Billionaire Wilks Brothers.

Alex Epstein Is Sponsored By The Koch Brothers. “The main vector for this line of argument is a book-length piece of sophistry, The Moral Case For Fossil Fuels, authored by Alex Epstein. Epstein is a full-time advocate for burning of oil, coal, and petroleum gas. He’s sponsored by the now-infamous petrochemical billionaires the Koch brothers.” [The Guardian, [10/22/15](#)]

Alex Epstein Has Contributed Content To PragerU. [PragerU, Presenter, accessed [05/18/21](#)]

- **Two Family Members Of The Fracking Billionaire Wilks Brothers Are On PragerU's Board.** "Much of Prager's early funding came from the fracking billionaire Wilks brothers, early Ted Cruz donors who sat out of the 2016 general election. In addition to running their own church, the Assembly of Yahweh – where one of the brothers is a pastor who preaches that the Bible is historically and scientifically accurate – the Wilks brothers own the conservative website the Daily Wire and are reported to be considering a bid for Glenn Beck's the Blaze. Two members of the Wilks family sit on the PragerU board." [BuzzFeed, 03/03/18, archived [02/14/19](#)]

The Center For Industrial Progress Is A For-Profit Organization Relying On Donations And Alex Epstein's Efforts To "Monetize Our Activities Whenever Possible."

The Center For Industrial Progress Encourages Non-Deductible Donations From Its Supporters While Proudly Stating It Is Not A 501(c)3. "Do you love what CIP is doing? Accelerate CIP's progress by contributing. [...] CIP is proudly not a 501c-3 non-profit. As a result, gifts to CIP are not tax-deductible—but we believe our donors are better off this way." [Center For Industrial Progress, Donate, archived [01/06/13](#)]

Epstein Said It Is "Very Important" For The Center For Industrial Progress To "Monetize Our Activities Whenever Possible." "It's very important for us to find ways monetize our activities whenever possible. For instance, there is a significant market for public speaking out there, and there's no reason why really good speeches on industrial progress – properly positioned – can't succeed in that market, and if we can't succeed in that market that means we're doing something wrong and we need to learn and get better." [*The Objective Standard*, [11/17/11](#)]

Alex Epstein Makes Money By Charging Exorbitant Speaking Fees To Big Oil Corporations

Alex Epstein Charges \$23,500 For Speaking Engagements, Which Is Where The Center For Industrial Progress Gets A Substantial Portion Of Its Revenue. In A YouTube video, Epstein said, "historically, we've supported our project and our ambitions is through public speaking and doing high-paid public Speaking. My usual rate is \$22,000 plus \$1,500 in expenses that people pay, and they think it's really valuable. And we're glad they do. Twenty-three thousand, five hundred dollars to bring me in to speak." [YouTube, accessed [05/18/21](#)]

Alex Epstein Gives Paid Speeches To Big Oil Corporations Like ExxonMobil, Chevron, Phillips 66, And Others. "He has also spoken to employees and leaders at dozens of Fortune 500 energy companies, including ExxonMobil, Chevron, Phillips 66, Valero, Enbridge, and TransCanada. Alex, known for his willingness to debate anyone, anytime, has publicly debated leading environmentalist organizations such Greenpeace, the Sierra Club, and 350.org over the morality of fossil fuel use." [Center for Industrial Progress, accessed [05/18/21](#)]

Alex Epstein Offers Talking Points And Consulting Services To Candidates And Officials, Including The Kentucky Coal Association.

Alex Epstein Offers Talking Point Help To Candidates. “If you are a candidate and would like to request custom talking points, I’ll do my best to help you. Email me at alex@alexepstein.com subject “I’m a candidate.” [Energy Talking Points, Overview, accessed [05/18/21](#)]

- **Alex Epstein’s Website “Energy Talking Points” Provides Talking Points On “Every Major Energy And Environmental Issue.”** “Thus, I will be sharing what I think are the best talking points, along with references, on every major energy and environmental issue.” [Energy Talking Points, Overview, accessed [05/18/21](#)]
- **Energy Talking Points Includes Entries On California Wildfires, Fracking, Biden’s Energy Plan, “The So-Called Climate Crisis,” And More.** [Energy Talking Points, accessed [05/18/21](#)]

The Center For Industrial Progress Boasts Its Ability To Train Leaders To “Out-Message ‘Environmentalists.’” “CIP is unmatched in its ability to successfully out-message “environmentalists” and turn their supporters into your supporters. As one of our readers recently wrote about Alex Epstein, CIP’s President: “It would be an understatement to say that Alex Epstein has completely and absolutely changed how I think about energy. No longer do I feel guilt for enjoying the use of products powered by fossil fuels, in fact, I now embrace them. I now see fossil fuels as a source of life rather than a source of death as is widely quoted by environmentalists” [DeSmog, Center For Industrial Progress, Consulting, [09/17/15](#)]

Epstein’s Clients Include The President Of The Kentucky Coal Association And The Website “The Coal Truth.” “Last week, Tyler White, who as the President of the Kentucky Coal Association is a leading voice in the coal industry, took on the “power liars” in the influential Lexington Herald Leader. [...] In praising this piece I must disclose, proudly, that the author is one of my clients. As is the allied website, “The Coal Truth,” that has a more in-depth expose of “100% renewable.” The goal of my consulting work is to create principled, persuasive messaging for other organizations that support pro-freedom, pro-flourishing policies.” [Center For Industrial Progress, archived [11/17/18](#)]

The Center For Industrial Progress Trains Young People To Push Their Talking Points. “For example, we are starting up a program to train people, especially young people and people with industry experience, to become effective advocates of industrial progress.” [The Objective Standard, [11/17/11](#)]

Alex Epstein’s Center For Industrial Progress Got A Pandemic Bailout Of \$47,772

The Center For Industrial Progress Received A Paycheck Protection Program Loan Of \$47,772 On May 1, 2021. [Accountable.US Covid Bailout Tracker, accessed [05/19/21](#)]

Pro-Fossil Fuel Actions, Climate Change Denial, And Misinformation Campaigns

Alex Epstein Rejects Climate Science And Vocally Denies The Significance Of Climate Change

Alex Epstein Has Spread Climate Change Denial. “If you've ever expressed the least bit of skepticism about environmentalist calls for making the vast majority of fossil fuel use illegal, you've probably heard the smug response: “97% of climate scientists agree with climate change” – which always carries the implication: Who are you to challenge them? The answer is: you are a thinking, independent individual--and you don't go by polls, let alone second-hand accounts of polls; you go by facts, logic and explanation.” [*Forbes*, [01/06/15](#)]

- **Epstein Has Acknowledged Humans Contribute To “Some Warming,” But Denied It Is Anything Catastrophic.** “For example, he said he believes humans have contributed to “some warming” but not “run-away, catastrophic warming.” Scientists have long connected human society to a rapid rise in atmospheric carbon.” [*CPR*, [10/22/19](#)]
- **Epstein Was Included On Rolling Stone’s List Of Top Global Warming Deniers.** “The youthful Epstein tours college campuses debating environmentalists and promoting the benefits of oil and coal to modern society; “Fossil Fuels Improve the Planet” was the title of his April talk at Vassar. Recently he termed the Tesla Model S “a coal car” because “the electricity in an ‘electric car’ must come from somewhere – and that somewhere is usually fossil fuels.”” [*Rolling Stone*, [09/12/13](#)]

Alex Epstein Said Americans Benefit From Rising Carbon Dioxide Levels In Front Of Congress.

Alex Epstein Testified Before The Senate That Americans Benefit From Rising Carbon Dioxide Levels. “Epstein testified that rising carbon dioxide levels benefit plants and Americans.” [*E&E News*, [04/13/16](#)]

Alex Epstein Denies The Connection Between Climate Change And Rising Sea Levels, Citing Wikipedia To Support His Claims.

Epstein Claims Human-Influenced Global Warming Has A Minimal Effect On Sea Levels. “Truth 1: The impact on sea levels of human-influenced global warming pales in comparison to local factors and to the massive natural sea level rises of the past.” [*Forbes*, [03/22/16](#)]

- **In The Same Essay, Epstein Cites Wikipedia To Support His Claims.** “Even Wikipedia, whose entries on energy and environmental issues are notoriously dominated by the edits of climate catastrophists, acknowledges that sea level rise has dramatically slowed over thousands of years compared to dramatic rises 10,000-20,000 years ago.” [*Forbes*, [03/22/16](#)]

Alex Epstein Promotes Fossil Fuels While Claiming Opposition To Them Amounts To A “Moral Crime.”

Alex Epstein Wrote A Book Arguing For Increased Fossil Fuel Use While Claiming It Is A "Moral Crime" To Not Be Grateful To The Oil And Gas Industry.

Alex Epstein Wrote "The Moral Case For Fossil Fuels" Arguing For Increased Fossil Fuel Use. "Epstein is the author of *The Moral Case for Fossil Fuels* (Penguin, 2014), a New York Times bestseller arguing that if we look at the whole picture, human flourishing requires that humanity use more fossil fuels not less." [Center For Industrial Progress, About, accessed [05/18/21](#)]

Epstein Called It "A Moral Crime" To Not Be Grateful To The Fossil Fuel Industry. "As long as your life is being made possible by the people of the fossil fuels industry, I think you should be grateful," Epstein said, "and I think it is a crime, a moral crime, that you are damning anyone by association." [E&E News, [04/13/16](#)]

Alex Epstein Argues That Removing Fossil Fuels Would Harm The Environment.

Epstein Claims Removing Fossil Fuels Would Hurt The Environment. "The president's anti-fossil-fuel policies would ruin billions of lives economically and environmentally," he said, "depriving people of energy and therefore making them more vulnerable to nature's ever-present climate danger." [E&E News, [04/13/16](#)]

Alex Epstein Called For Sheldon Whitehouse To Resign, Arguing The Senator Was Impeding On The Free Speech Of Fossil Fuel Companies.

Alex Epstein Called On Senator Sheldon Whitehouse To Resign After Leaving A Hearing Early, Claiming His Behavior Is "Unconstitutional" And Harmful "To The Free Speech Of [Fossil Fuel] Companies." "After Whitehouse left the room to attend another hearing, Epstein called on the senator to resign. [...] "And I wish Senator Whitehouse were here," Epstein added, "because what he is doing to the free speech of those companies and anyone associated with them is unconstitutional, and I think he should apologize and resign." [E&E News, [04/13/16](#)]

The Center For Industrial Progress Was Included In A Massachusetts Lawsuit Against Exxon For Misleading The Public On The Climate Change And Fossil Fuels.

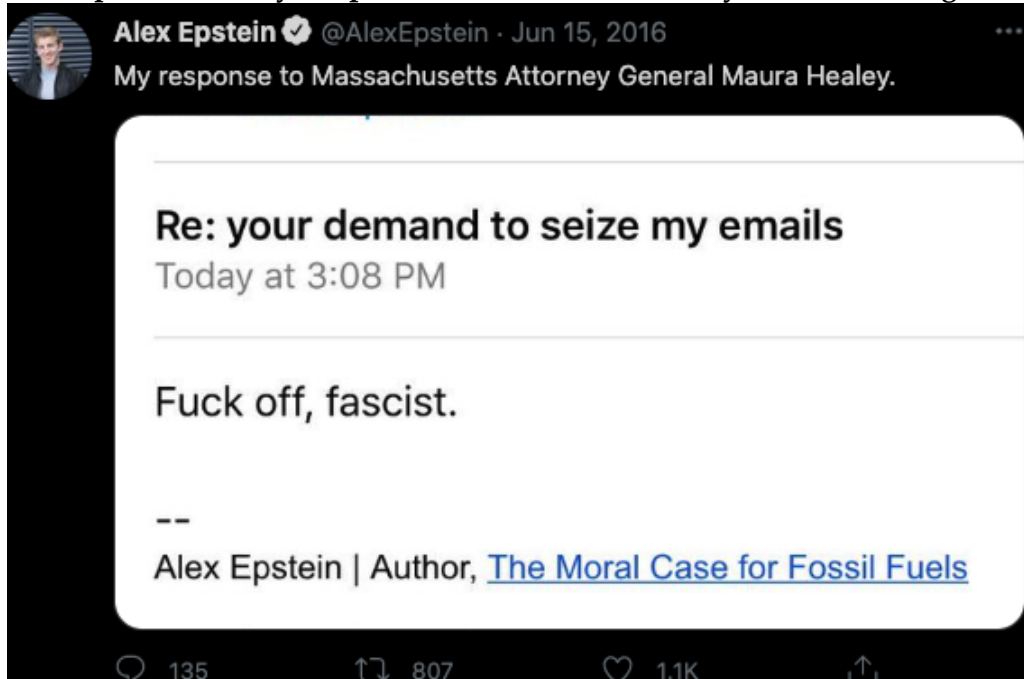
The Center For Industrial Progress Was Cited In A Subpoena From The Massachusetts Attorney General Against Exxon For Climate Change Disinformation. "Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healey is persecuting ExxonMobil and now me for having opinions on fossil fuels she disagrees with. My company, the Center for Industrial Progress, is one of the 12 cited in the new subpoena of Exxon, meaning that Exxon is supposed to release any private or confidential correspondence any of its employees have ever had with anyone from my company." [Forbes, [06/16/16](#)]

- **The 2016 Suit From Massachusetts Sought Documents From Exxon To Determine If It Had Violated Consumer Protection Laws Through Marketing And Sales Of Fossil Fuels That Misled People On The Impact Of Climate Change.** "Healey in 2016 issued a so-called civil investigative demand to Exxon seeking documents to determine whether

it had violated Massachusetts consumer-protection law through its marketing and sale of fossil fuel products. [...] The state built its lawsuit on evidence from other sources, including New York's case, Healey said. In its 2018 lawsuit, New York accuses Exxon of falsely telling investors it had properly evaluated the impact of future climate regulations on its business, defrauding investors out of up to \$1.6 billion." [Reuters, [10/24/19](#)]

Alex Epstein Called The Massachusetts Attorney General A "Fascist" And Argued For Exxon's Ability To Spread Disinformation.

Alex Epstein Proudly Responded To The MA Attorney General Stating "F*ck Off, Fascist."



[Twitter, @AlexEpstein, [06/15/16](#)]

Epstein Argued In Favor Of Exxon's Climate Disinformation Campaign, Claiming That Were Expressing An "Opinion." "What ExxonMobil is being prosecuted for is expressing an opinion about the evidence that the government disagrees with. Or, in the case of the #ExxonKnew meme, they are being prosecuted for failing to express an opinion the government agrees with." [Forbes, [06/16/16](#)]

Alex Epstein Has Defended Flaring And Opposed The Paris Agreement, Taking Stances Even More Extreme Than Those Held By The Oil And Gas Industry.

Alex Epstein Has Blamed Environmentalists For Worsened Flaring And Defended The Practice While The American Petroleum Institute Has Pledged To End Routine Flaring.

Alex Epstein Said Environmental Activists Have Made Flaring Worse And Opposes Any Restrictions On The Practice. "The widely-condemned "flaring" of natural gas is a vital safety measure that decreases the energy efficiency of US drilling by less than 1%. And that number

would be far lower without the infrastructure-blocking of anti-fossil fuel activists who claim to oppose flaring. [...] The US does not need new restrictions on flaring, it needs to liberate infrastructure-building from anti-fossil fuel activists so that the highly efficient US oil and gas industry can become even more efficient." [Energy Talking Points, Flaring, accessed [05/18/21](#)]

The American Petroleum Institute Supports Ending Routine Flaring. "API supports company efforts toward no routine flaring by a date certain, for example the World Bank's Zero Flaring Initiative by 2030." [API, Climate Action Framework, accessed [05/18/21](#)]

Alex Epstein Has Called The American Petroleum Institute-Backed Paris Agreement "Unconstitutional", "Anti-American", And "Immoral."

Alex Epstein Opposes The Paris Climate Accords, Calling Them, Unconstitutional, Anti-American, And Immoral. "Reason #1 why Biden should not rejoin Paris: to do so without Senate authorization is Unconstitutional. [...] Reason #2 why Biden should not rejoin Paris: it goes against US interests. [...] Reason #3 why Biden should not rejoin the Paris Climate Accords: it is immoral." [Energy Talking Points, Paris Climate Accords, accessed [05/18/21](#)]

The American Petroleum Institute Supports Working Towards The Goals Of The Paris Climate Accords. "Our industry is prepared to tackle these challenges, lead where we are best positioned to develop solutions and work with policymakers, other industries and communities to supply the energy the world needs while working to reach the ambitions of the Paris Climate Agreement." [API, Climate Action Framework, accessed [05/18/21](#)]

Alex Epstein Has Rejected The Science Behind Climate-Driven Catastrophes, Blaming Renewables For Present-Day Climate Problems Like California And Texas's Blackouts...

Alex Epstein Dismissed Concerns Of Climate-Driven Catastrophes As "Wild Speculation."

Alex Epstein Called Threats Of Climate Change-Driven Catastrophe "Wild Speculation." "Epstein also warned the audience that scientists and environmentalists who predict global catastrophe from climate change are suspect because such predictions are simply "wild speculation."" [Mother Jones, [12/22/18](#)]

Alex Epstein Said The "Worst Answer" To The Colonial Pipeline Hack Would Be Electric Vehicles.

Alex Epstein Described Electric Vehicles As The Worst Possible Response To The Colonial Pipeline Hack And Ensuing Gas Shortage. "The empty gas stations all over the East Coast in the wake of the hacking of the Colonial Pipeline have brought energy security to the forefront of our minds. Many wonder: How can we prevent this, or something worse, from happening again? The worst answer is: mandatory EVs." [Twitter, @AlexEpstein, [05/14/21](#)]

Alex Epstein Denied Climate Change's Role In The California Wildfires And Blackouts.

Epstein Rejected The Idea That Climate Change Played A Role In The California Wildfires. “The solution to dangerous, out-of-control wildfires in California is addressing the root cause: “excess fuel load” from bad forest management. Focusing on climate change, a minor variable that we have no near-term control over, is a craven political ploy. [...] Why do I say rising CO2 levels and temps are a minor factor? Because it’s hard to determine any definite influence.” [Energy Talking Points, California Wildfires, accessed [05/18/21](#)]

Epstein Blamed California’s Blackouts On Renewable Energy. “California is experiencing blackouts because of “green” policies that reward or mandate unreliable electricity from solar and wind and punish or outlaw reliable electricity from nuclear, natural gas, coal, or hydro. We need to understand and apply this lesson this election.” [Energy Talking Points, California Blackouts, accessed [05/18/21](#)]

Alex Epstein Falsely Blamed Wind And Solar For Texas’s Blackouts.

Alex Epstein Perpetuated The Lie That Wind And Solar Were To Blame For Texas’s Blackouts. “Imagine if, during the recent freeze, Texas was far more dependent on unreliable solar and wind--and it had a massive fleet of EVs that needed charging. The blackouts would have lasted for weeks. That's what the Biden administration has in store for us..” [Twitter, @AlexEpstein, [05/14/21](#)]

...And Giving Texas Officials Anti-Renewable And Untrue Talking Points In The Wake Of Their Recent Energy Crisis.

Alex Epstein Sent Talking Points Blaming Renewables To Texas Regulators Following The Blackout, Some Of Whom Admitted To Being A Member Of Epstein’s “Energy Talking Points” Service.

Epstein Sent His Anti-Renewable Talking Points To Various Texas Regulators During The Blackout. “The talking points from Alex Epstein, author of “The Moral Case for Fossil Fuels,” made their way to the Texas governor's office and to the state's oil and gas regulator, known as the Railroad Commission of Texas. One commissioner amplified the talking points on Twitter, while another commissioner's aide forwarded them to top Texas oil and gas lobbyists. The talking points said there was a lesson to learn from the Texas crisis: that wind and solar power are “often useless when you need them most.” [NBC News, [04/01/21](#)]

- **A Member Of Texas’s Railroad Commission Confirmed He Was A Member Of Alex Epstein’s “Energy Talking Points” Service After Blaming Renewables For The Crisis.** “On the same day Epstein's talking points arrived at Abbott's office, Epstein tweeted his top-line points, calling wind and solar “unreliables.” Wayne Christian, a member of the Railroad Commission, soon retweeted them to his followers. [...] Christian confirmed in an email that he was a member of Epstein's “Energy Talking Points” service.” [NBC News, [04/01/21](#)]

Alex Epstein Sent His Anti-Renewables Talking Points To Texas Gov. Greg Abbott Hours Before Abbott Spewed The Same Points On Fox News.

Epstein Sent The Same Talking Points To Gov. Abbott's Chief Of Staff Hours Before The Governor Blamed Renewables For The Crisis On Fox News. "Gov. Greg Abbott asserted on Fox News' "Hannity" that "our wind and our solar got shut down." Less than 12 hours earlier, talking points from Epstein had landed in the inbox of Luis Saenz, Abbott's chief of staff. "Here's the bottom line: The root cause of the TX blackouts is a national and state policy that has prioritized the adoption of unreliable wind/solar energy over reliable energy," Epstein wrote to Saenz. [...] Saenz, who emails show was invited to a weekly Zoom briefing with Epstein the day of Abbott's Fox News interview, didn't respond to an inquiry about whether he attended the briefing or passed the talking points along to Abbott." [NBC News, [04/01/21](#)]

Alex Epstein Attacked Government Responses To COVID-19, Going So Far As To Blame The Green Movement For Worsening The Pandemic.

Alex Epstein Criticized Shutdowns And "Government Control Over Our Economy" For Worsening The Pandemic.

Alex Epstein Was Critical Of Pandemic Shutdowns, Dismissing COVID-19 As Comparable To The Flu. "One shutdown critic, author Alex Epstein, runs the for-profit thinktank the Center for Industrial Progress. [...] Epstein in a podcast compared the coronavirus to the seasonal flu and said "the purpose of the government is not to extend people's lives. It's to leave us free to live our lives as we judge best."" [The Guardian, [05/21/20](#)]

Epstein Blamed "Government Control Over Our Economy" For Worsening COVID-19. "Joe Biden calls for a "unified national response" to climate change, claiming this is what we needed for Covid-19. But "unified national response" is code for an expansion of government control over our economy. But government control over our economy made Covid-19 far worse." [Twitter, @AlexEpstein, [12/22/20](#)]

Alex Epstein Claimed "Losing Weight" Would Be More Consequential Than Mask Mandates.

Epstein Attacked Mask Mandates, Saying "Losing Weight" Would Be More Consequential. "A question I've been thinking about re: our mask-centered COVID conversation: What behaviors that nobody is talking about are more consequential than mask-wearing? Some guesses: getting adequate Vitamin D, losing weight if you're obese, limiting contact with the vulnerable. [Twitter, @AlexEpstein, [09/16/20](#)]

Alex Epstein Blamed The Green Movement For Worsening COVID-19.

Alex Epstein Said The Green Movement Exacerbated COVID-19. "Has any mainstream publication held the green movement to account for the many "green" practices that have helped spread Covid-19: incentivizing city living, under-ventilated "energy efficient" housing, insufficient heating due to skyrocketing costs, etc?" [Twitter, @AlexEpstein, [01/14/21](#)]

Alex Epstein Has Further Attacked The Environment Itself, Occupy Wall Street, And Raved About Plastic Bags As A Moral Good.

Alex Epstein Opposes Environmentalism And Considers The Environment "Extremely Hostile."

Epstein Is Against Environmentalism. "Obviously I'm against environmentalism." [*The Objective Standard*, [11/17/11](#)]

Alex Epstein Called The Environment "Extremely Hostile." "Unfortunately, our educational system teaches people that "the environment" is this separate, intrinsically valuable thing that human beings ruin through industry. We're taught that minimizing environmental impact is the ideal. In fact, the environment we should be concerned about is the human environment, and we should think in terms of how we can maximize our positive impact on the human environment. By default, nature is an extremely hostile place to live, which is why average human life expectancy throughout history is thirty." [*The Objective Standard*, [11/17/11](#)]

Alex Epstein Says Using Plastic Bags Is A Moral Good.

Alex Epstein Promoted Plastic Bag Usage As A "Moral" Good That Promotes "Human Life, Health, Comfort" And More. "Epstein's center published a blog post "In defense of plastic bags" back in 2013. "I believe that it's moral for human beings to use our minds to create new things like plastic bags, which promote human life, health, comfort, convenience, efficiency, wealth and productivity," its author wrote." [*The Guardian*, [10/22/15](#)]

Alex Epstein Considered The Occupy Wall Street Movement Incredible Corrupt For Opposing "The More Successful People In Society."

Epstein Called The Occupy Wall Street Movement "Incredible Corrupt" For "Being Against The Most Successful People In Society." "There is a lot to say about Occupy Wall Street. I think, in general, the whole premise of defining a movement as being against the most successful people in society is incredibly corrupt." [*The Objective Standard*, [11/17/11](#)]