

Brown wants to keep oil in the ground

By David R. Baker, San Francisco Chronicle

Even the greenest, most eco-friendly politicians rarely utter the words Gov. Jerry Brown spoke at the Vatican's climate change symposium last week.

To prevent the worst effects of global warming, one-third of the world's known oil reserves must remain in the ground, Brown told the gathering of government officials from around the world. The same goes for 50 percent of natural gas reserves and 90 percent of coal.

"Now that is a revolution," Brown said. "That is going to take a call to arms."

It's an idea widely embraced among environmentalists and climate scientists.

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