

*Double, double toil and trouble;*

*Fire burn, and caldron bubble.*

Or in this case, vast quantities of natural gas bubbled into the Gulf of Mexico:

A vast majority of the natural gas that billowed out of BP PLC's failed well in the Gulf this summer did not escape to the surface and atmosphere. Instead, the gas — including its main component, methane — remained trapped deep underwater, priming the bacterial response to the spill, according to research published online yesterday in Science.

In some places, according to [Greenwire](#), methane concentrations were as high as oxygen concentrations.

That was June. Maybe the methane is long gone by now. It would certainly be nice to have more recent data.