

Recommended Citation

Jarrar, Sarah (2020) "The Gift that Keeps on Giving: Investment of Conservative Forces in Renewable Energy Technology," *Spectrum*: Vol. 9 : Iss. 1 , Article 5.

Available at: <https://scholars.unh.edu/spectrum/vol9/iss1/5>

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Spectrum

Volume 9 | Issue 1

Article 5

6-2-2020

The Gift that Keeps on Giving: Investment of Conservative Forces in Renewable Energy Technology

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The Gift that Keeps on Giving: Investment of Conservative Forces in Renewable Energy Technology

Completed for Professor Robin Sheriff's course ANTH 611: History of Anthropological Theory, this analysis focuses on current trends of investments in renewable energy by major oil firms and their subsidiaries. This discussion is based on the writing of Leslie White, who postulates that cultural evolution is a result of shifts in how human harness energy. Ultimately, I illustrate how these investment trends are working to maintain our current global socio-economic system. With a strong hand controlling the world's most demanded and lucrative natural resource, crude oil, the intent of oil companies to maintain this control through investing in sources of energy to replace oil after its depletion. The recently formed direct air capture (DAC) company, Carbon Engineering, is discussed to provide context to this trend.