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# Challenging Legitimacy at the Precipice of Energy Calamity

- Looks at how society navigates crucial historic moments
- Focuses on the Athabasca tar sands and the high viscosity tar that has been deposited over several millennia
- The potential for reflexive social change can best be evaluated through critical consideration of why current social structures are sustained

Human history has often been described as a progressive relinquishment from environmental constraints. Now, it seems, we have come full circle. The ecological irrationalities associated with industrial societies have a lengthy history, and our purpose in the proposed book is not to catalogue this litany of wrongs. Rather, this book is about political responses to global environmental crisis at a crucial turning point in history, by focusing on the political discourses surrounding the tar sands in Alberta, Canada.

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