

ESC 256 Geology and Jazz

Essay Question

Due Feb 3rd, 2016

Louisiana is very rich in natural resources. It has rich farmland, approximately 40 percent of the wetlands in the contiguous U.S., more off-shore oil wells than Texas, and the busiest ports by volume in the U.S. Between New Orleans and Baton Rouge is one of the highest concentrations of petrochemical plants in the world. These plants use Louisiana's oil and water for production and its rivers for transportation and waste disposal. Yet Louisiana also has one of the worst poverty rates in the country, particularly in New Orleans, even prior to Hurricane Katrina. Literacy rates are low, crime is high, and the streets are bad. Where has Louisiana gone wrong? What do you believe is the proper relationship between humans and the utilization of natural resources?