

WHAT AMERICAN LEADERS HAVE SAID ABOUT T. BOONE PICKENS AND THE PICKENS PLAN

“Last year, more than 150 members of Congress from both sides of the aisle produced legislation providing incentives to use clean-burning natural gas in our vehicles instead of oil. And that's a big deal. Getting 150 members of Congress to agree on anything is a big deal. And they were even joined by T. Boone Pickens, a businessman who made his fortune on oil, but who is out there making the simple point that we can't simply drill our way out of our energy problems.” – *President Barack Obama, 3/30/11*

“T. Boone Pickens, who made his fortune in the oil business -- and I don't think anybody would consider him unfriendly to drilling -- was right when he said that this is one emergency we can't drill our way out of. We can't place our long-term bets on a finite resource that we only control 2 percent of.” – *President Barack Obama, 3/11/11*

“And for the sake of our economy, our security, and the future of our planet, I will set a clear goal as president: In 10 years, we will finally end our dependence on oil from the Middle East.” – *Presidential Candidate and Senator Barack Obama, 8/28/08*

“Maybe we're at last realizing that natural gas has to be harnessed as a fuel for vehicles, not just for power plants... The huge finds in multiple states have encouraged politicians to realize that perhaps we could create lots of new jobs.” – *Jim Cramer, Mad Money, 7/25/11*

“While I do not support providing federal grants to any industry, I do support the tax credits contained in the NAT Gas Act, HR 1380. These credits reduce taxes for the production or purchase of vehicles that run on American-made natural gas. These credits are not subsidies... Lowering taxes to encourage the domestic production of energy and getting government out of the way of the American energy market is not a government giveaway; it is the way it should be in a free country.” – *Presidential Candidate and Congressman Ron Paul, 6/27/11*

“We should pay attention to T. Boone Pickens's recommendations to switch to natural gas for fleet vehicles such as buses, and for interstate trucking. Buses and trucks are easily modified to run on natural gas and would only require new pumps at a few central locations and interstate truck stops.” – *R. James Woolsey, former director of Central Intelligence and chairman of Woolsey Partners, The Wall Street Journal, 4/15/10*

“I think there are great incentives that have already been put in place though the recovery program. And that's what's changing the page, in terms of how we're looking at energy these days. But I think as we move forward with a comprehensive energy package, there is going to be room there for natural gas and for some of the other ideas that people are talking about.” – *Secretary Of The Interior Ken Salazar, CNBC Squawk Box, 3/31/10*

“So, there's movement here. There's momentum. We need to take advantage of this remarkable resource known as natural gas... I know we're gonna get a natural gas title in a big energy bill because it's obvious. It's clear to all of us here. At least I should speak for a group of us, that this is an enormous opportunity for us with these new finds. You know the Marcellus, the Barnett hales, the new technologies. So, I'm bullish on natural gas...” – *Senator Mark Udall, Mad Money, 2/24/10*

“This is an important issue not only for health reasons, but as Boone said, for national security. More than 20 percent of our fleet in the city is now alternative fuel vehicles of all kind – CNG, LNG, liquefied natural gas, hybrids, electric. We are a city with a huge port which has severe environmental impacts, so we're making sure the health of our residents is protected. But in addition, it's a very smart thing to move away from petroleum, and natural gas as well as electricity are both good alternative fuels. So we're doing it for both reasons.” – *Mayor Bob Foster, Long Beach, CA, 10/6/09*

“Today in homes, at work, and on the farm, millions of Americans already use clean propane technology to help meet the energy needs of our country. With the support of the Pickens Plan, millions more will learn how they can use propane to make a difference too.” – *President and CEO Roy Willis, Propane Education & Research Council (PERC), 6/10/09*

“We can produce cleaner, lower carbon, cheaper domestic fuels -- it's called natural gas. ... 'It's innovation, stupid', needs to be the 21st century mantra of this country. And importing oil is about the most retrograde, stupid habit we cling to.” – *Carl Pope, 5/18/09*

“When Boone Pickens came forward with the Pickens Plan...we felt like he had really advanced the ball on a number of fronts. He was very committed to wind energy which we think is far and away the most cost-effective renewable out there today, hopefully down the road, there will be many more renewables as cost-effective.” – *Mike Thaman, CEO Owens Corning, 4/16/09*

“T. Boone has sent a rallying cry to America to demand a new energy policy and achieve energy Independence – and we are behind him 100 percent. Owens Corning believes that energy efficiency in homes and buildings is critical to the achievement of true energy independence.” – *Frank O’Brien-Bernini, Chief Sustainability Officer of Owens Corning, 3/27/09*

“This is a statement I thought I’d never make...by saying I agree with every thing that Boone Pickens said and I never thought I’d say that!” – *Rep. Edward Markey, National Clean Energy Summit, 2/24/09*

“United States of America, our country, is the only nation that can lead the world when a crisis like this looms. And in order to lead the world, we have to restore the momentum and the can-do spirit that - Boone Pickens exemplifies this - let’s go and let’s do this.” – *Al Gore, Former Vice President United States of America, 2/24/09*

“So we’ve got to redouble our efforts, as Boone noted, to end our dependence on oil, by building the infrastructure for delivery of clean domestic alternative transportation fuels. We need a fresh approach. We need a plan, as my friend Mr. Pickens says.” – *John Podesta, Former White House Chief of Staff, President of the Center For American Progress, 2/24/09*

“We have on March the 1st, thanks to Boone and his ability to twist an arm, the delivery of our first LNG trucks.” – *Former CEO of Wal-Mart, Lee Scott, 2/23/09*

“I think no one in America has done more to advance the cause of renewable energy than T. Boone Pickens. And he’s done it using his own money, not because he’s interested in profit for his companies, but because he’s interested in America being energy independent, not reliant on fuel from anywhere else, but fuel produced in America and because he’s one of this nation’s great visionaries.” – *Governor Ed Rendell of Pennsylvania, 2/21/09*

“The steps outlined in the Pickens Plan will make a significant and immediate impact on the energy crisis, creating jobs, cleaning our environment, and keeping American dollars on American soil.” – *Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., 1/13/09*

“The American Lung Association applauds Mr. Pickens’ goal of harnessing cleaner energy alternatives because cleaner energy will make our air healthier to breathe.” – *Steve Nolan, Chairman of the American Lung Association, 12/9/08*

“I feel like right now, I and the rest of my audience would follow you (Boone Pickens) out the building...I’m literally like sir, where do we go sir? I’m reporting for duty.” – *Jon Stewart, The Daily Show, 11/12/08*

“Nobody’s talking about the Obama plan or the McCain plan. The only plan that I think matters is the Pickens Plan. As in Boone Pickens, the oil man turned advocate of wind power and natural gas as better energy independent fuels.” – *Jim Cramer, Mad Money, 10/16/08*

“I believe that the Pickens Plan can realistically reduce our energy dependency in the next decade...I applaud Boone Pickens for building an army—one million strong—and elevating this issue into the national debate.” – *Governor Ted Strickland of Ohio, 10/16/08*

“We have the capacity today in the natural gas field to convert our auto industry into using natural gas...the use of natural gas will save the auto industry.” – *Rahm Emmanuel, Mayor of Chicago, Former White House Chief of Staff, and Former Congressman, 10/14/08*

“I’m happy to join with T. Boone Pickens to increase alternative fuel usage so that we can all achieve energy independence. The city of Las Vegas has long been a leader in sustainability and alternative fuel use. More than 90 percent of city vehicles and equipment run on some type of alternative fuel.” – *Mayor Oscar B. Goodman, Las Vegas, 10/9/08*

“I am pleased to have the opportunity to join Boone in this important conversation with the American people. He has come up with a real way to reduce America’s dependence on foreign oil by using cleaner, renewable forms of alternative energy such as wind, solar and natural gas and I support his plan.” – *Carl Pope, Sierra Club, 10/7/08*

“We must end our dependency on petro-dictators. We need American energy, produced by American workers, made right here at home.” – *Governor Brian Schweitzer of Montana, 9/17/08*

“There is gonna be change, and I am absolutely convinced that the change is gonna come from what T. Boone Pickens is talking about...the plan is totally consistent with what we need as a country.” – *Governor of Utah and Presidential Candidate, Jon Huntsman, 9/11/08*

“T. Boone Pickens, who has made a living in the oil business, recognizes that America needs to move away from our dangerous overdependence on imported oil. His campaign is drawing attention to the potential of renewable energy.” – *Sen. John Thune, 8/20/08*

“We need good ideas, like those offered by T. Boone Pickens and others. As most know, T. Boone Pickens is an oilman and a staunch conservative. But T. Boone Pickens realizes the enormity of our energy crisis. That is a pretty good model for the kind of bipartisanship it will take to solve this problem.” – *Harry Reid, Senate Majority Leader, 7/22/08*

“To put it plainly, T. Boone Pickens is out to save America.” – *Carl Pope, Sierra Club, 7/3/08*

WHAT EDITORIALS HAVE SAID ABOUT T. BOONE PICKENS AND THE PICKENS PLAN

“Another sensible step would be for the government to encourage the manufacture of big trucks powered by natural gas. My friend Boone Pickens has proposed tax credits that would incentivize industry to produce 140,000 such trucks... It’s time to stop talking and start securing energy freedom.” – *Frank J. Gaffney Jr., The Washington Times, 7/12/11*

“The bill is designed to create demand for CNG, which in turn would provide incentives for retailers to offer it at more locations. Any policy that boosts natural gas consumption is good for Oklahoma. It would increase state revenues by pumping up gross production tax receipts. It would increase employment at state-based energy firms, which in turn would boost income and sales tax receipts.” – *The Oklahoman, 6/26/11*

“For reasons of conservation and national security, the country needs to be in the business of developing alternative energy sources and lessening its dependence on foreign oil... In an era of trillion-dollar deficits, and at a time when energy independence is so closely tied to national security, that's the kind of savings this nation needs. Congress needs to start thinking about the long haul and get this NAT GAS Act in gear.” – *The Philadelphia Inquirer, 6/18/11*

“A bill was introduced in Congress that can end American dependence on foreign oil. What is called the New Alternative Transportation to Give Americans Solutions Act - more simply put, the Nat Gas Act - came to Congress on April 6. It had bipartisan support. It ought to pass and pass promptly.” – *R. Emmett Tyrrell, Jr., The Washington Times Editorial, 4/14/11*

“What we need is a comprehensive energy policy that takes into account the country’s serious economic pain, and looks to prevent what we were certain couldn’t happen again after the great oil embargo of the 1970s... Oilman T. Boone Pickens has offered the closest thing to good advice by telling Americans what we don’t want to hear. We must absolutely reduce our oil consumption, and especially consumption of oil shipped from overseas.” – *The Aurora Sentinel, 4/14/11*

“This one small step could make a big difference... Natural gas is cheaper than oil. It’s cleaner. And it’s ours. If Congress can’t pass this thing, there’s really no hope.” – *Joe Nocera, “Pass the Boone Pickens Bill,” The New York Times, 4/11/11*

“Turning the Pickens plan into reality makes sense for a variety of reasons revealed by a glance at global headlines... Today, the country’s available gas reserves are estimated by some to be the equivalent of three times Saudi Arabia’s oil reserves – a 100-year supply of a clean-burning fuel. The voluble Pickens, in town recently to speak to a Petroleum Club audience, said it would be ‘stupid’ not to tap such a bounty. We agree. As the octogenarian dynamo points out, the alternative is to send an estimated \$10 trillion to producing countries, a move that would amount to ‘the greatest transfer of wealth in the history of mankind.’ That is unthinkable.” – *The Houston Chronicle, 4/8/11*

“Pickens’ plan has much to commend it. Spending more energy dollars at home would create jobs, improve the nation’s balance of payments and weaken some of our nation’s adversaries. Providing an incentive to retrofit trucks would create a market for natural-gas refueling and give service stations an incentive to add the needed tanks, which would benefit other vehicles converted to run on the abundant gas. If you don’t have a plan, Pickens says, your plan is to use more foreign oil. And that’s a plan the nation cannot afford.” – *Tampa Tribune, 10/22/10*

“In Pickens’ straightforward style he puts out a challenge. For 40 years, we have had no energy plan for America. A fool with a plan can beat a genius with no plan. Anyone who doesn’t like my plan needs to offer up one of their own. He’s right. We need a plan.” – *Robin Blummer, St. Petersburg Times, 10/3/10*

“He’s dead on with his remarks about a national energy policy. We don’t have one, despite promises by several presidents, including the current one, to end the country’s addiction to imported oil. Until we have one, we probably can expect continued reliance on foreign sources to meet a significant part of our energy needs.” – *St. Louis Post Dispatch, 9/28/10*

“His plan contains many defensible positions, even wise ones, and he's right that everything done or even suggested to date falls short of making this nation truly energy-independent in any reasonable period of time. He has done us a great favor by using his vast resources to point that out and spur us to greater efforts toward creating a comprehensive energy plan focused on domestic resources” – *The Portland Press Herald*, 7/25/10

“Pickens is making a splash with his investments and his predictions. We hope he's spot on in saying a good energy bill is doable this year.” – *The Oklahoman*, 6/8/10

“Pickens is dead on when he says America's increasing dependence on Middle Eastern oil amounts to "funding both sides of the war." – *Calgary Herald*, 11/12/09

“And the best part of all this natural-gas, clean-energy talk for red state, Republican Utahns? You don't have to be a tree-hugger to support it. ‘This is not a partisan issue,’ Pickens says. ‘This is an American issue.’ Spoken like a determined, 83-year-old oilman.” – *Standard-Examiner (UT)*, 8/30/09

“The fact is the United States is going to need oil for decades to come. It is important in too many things other than making gasoline. And there are some concerns about using wind power to run power generating plants. The point is, the Pickens Plan might not be the solution. Maybe it is. But Pickens is getting people thinking.” – *Tulsa World*, 8/19/09

“But give the 81-year-old oilman credit for waking up Americans and their leaders to the urgent need to import less oil and make the most of domestic energy sources. When Pickens speaks, people not only listen but also act.” – *The Wichita Eagle*, 7/30/09

“T. Boone Pickens, octogenarian oilman turned alternative energy advocate, made my day and that of everyone who heard his keynote address. Mr. Pickens was energetic, witty and extremely knowledgeable. From reading his autobiography, ‘The First Billion is the Hardest,’ I knew he exercised with a trainer 45 minutes every day, but still I wasn't prepared to meet someone so vibrant and passionate about his subject.” – *St. Louis Business Journal*, 5/1/09

“Some say Pickens' campaign for his plan is just a bid to get more government support for his massive Texas wind-farm project, which has stalled in the economic slowdown. Whatever his motivation, he deserves credit for calling attention to the threats posed by dependence on foreign oil.” – *Columbus Dispatch*, 3/12/09

“He makes people sit up and listen not because he preaches a message of environmental guilt and repentance, but rather capitalist ingenuity.” – *Dallas Morning News*, 12/24/08

“Pickens has done the nation a service by moving energy policy to the front burner and emphasizing the need for a specific, pragmatic plan that goes beyond partisan rhetoric. A fool with a plan can defeat a genius with no plan," he aptly noted. And Pickens is no fool.” – *The Wichita Eagle*, 7/31/08

“T. Boone Pickens, has stepped forward to take the lead on energy independence where Washington has failed... And this man, who has made his money in oil, said something you rarely - outside of this column, anyway - hear people say: ‘This is not about Republicans vs. Democrats.’” – *Bob Beckel, USA Today Editorial*, 7/24/08

“T. Boone Pickens, the legendary wildcatter and corporate raider, has decided that drilling for more oil is not the answer to the nation's energy problems. President Bush should listen to his fellow Texan and longtime political ally.” – *The New York Times*, 7/22/08

“Mr. Pickens is putting his money where his ideas are...Mr. Pickens concedes that people may suspect that his sudden enthusiasm for alternative energy is just another way ‘to make Boone Pickens rich.’ But with at least \$3 billion in the bank, he really doesn't need the money anywhere near as much as the country needs alternative energy and new ideas.” – *New York Times*, 7/22/08