



## T. Boone Pickens Media Coverage 1.27.10

### Total of 12 Placements

&#61623 Print: 4

&#61623 Blog/Online: 8

### Coverage Summary:

*Reuters* reported on the 39 percent growth in wind power capacity in 2009. Jobs associated with wind energy stayed flat from the previous year as the recession took a toll on manufacturing. The piece also focuses on AWEA's desire to see Congress pass national mandates for generating renewable power, which it says would lead to investors putting more money into building transmission lines.

Florida Senator George LeMieux quoted Pickens' figure that we're sending \$400 billion overseas to people who don't like us in an *Environment & Energy Daily* piece. He goes on to say that he thinks there is a way to work on energy independence and have a good result that's also good for the environment.

The *Dallas Morning News* reported that the Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport has stopped its practice of letting CNG powered taxis go to the front of the line. A state judge restored a temporary injunction against the policy after the taxi drivers association won a hearing on Monday.

### Highlighted Placements (Full Articles Below)

&#61623 **U.S. Wind Power Capacity Up in 2009** – *Reuters* – 1/26/10

o *CNET*

o *1010 WINS*

&#61623 **CLIMATE; Florida's Interim GOP Senator Brings 'Open Mind' to Cap-and-Trade Debate** – *Environment & Energy Daily* – 1/26/10

&#61623 **DFW Airport Stops Letting Natural Gas-Powered Taxis Go First** – *Dallas Morning News Blog* – 1/26/10

### Print Placements (Full Articles Below)

&#61623 **Foreign Demand May Drive Gasoline to \$3 a Gallon** – *Dallas Morning News* – 1/27/10

o *Denton Record Chronicle*

&#61623 **Wind Power** – *Chicago Tribune* – 1/27/10

### Blog/Online Placements (Full Articles Below)

&#61623 **Break Like the Wind: Turbine Industry Is Turbo-Charged** – *Fast Company Blog* – 1/27/10

&#61623 **Transmission Holds US Wind Power Back Despite 2009 Record** – *Risk.net* – 1/27/10

&#61623 **10 GW of Wind Power Installed in U.S. Last Year** – *EcoGeek* – 1/27/10

&#61623 **Arab-American Group 'Outraged' by Pickens Commercial** – *Dallas Morning News Blog* – 1/26/10

## HIGHLIGHTED COVERAGE

### **U.S. Wind Power Capacity Up in 2009** – Reuters – 1/26/10

WASHINGTON--U.S. wind power capacity soared 39 percent last year but job growth stalled as uncertainty about renewable-energy policies and the recession slowed manufacturing, an industry group said.

The combined power-generating capacity of new U.S. wind turbines installed last year hit more than 9,900 megawatts, up from a gain of over 8,400 MW in the previous year. Total capacity hit more than 35,000 MW, or about enough to power 9.7 million homes, the American Wind Energy Association said.

Total U.S. jobs associated with wind energy, stalled at 85,000, about flat from the previous year as the recession took a toll on manufacturing. In 2008, job growth surged as the sector added 35,000 positions.

Denise Bode, chief executive of AWEA, said jobs stalled because of tight financing and uncertainty about wind power incentives, including long-term tax credits and a national mandate for renewable energy.

She said President Barack Obama's recovery act that set aside billions of dollars for renewable energy helped prevent job losses. Some 1,500 to 2,000 jobs were lost in wind power manufacturing, but those jobs were made up for with gains in construction and maintenance at wind power farms, she said.

AWEA wants Congress to pass national mandates for generating renewable power, which are expected to be included in a compromise climate bill to be considered by the Senate this year.

"We are trying to convince European wind manufacturers to invest in the United States but first they want to know what policies will be in place," said Bode.

The United States overtook Germany in 2008 as the world's top wind power generator. But China, which unlike the United States, has set national clean-energy targets, may take the top spot for 2009 when the results are finalized.

"We are in a foot race with the Chinese who are providing more and more incentives and mandates for the industry," said Bode.

Texas led the country in added wind capacity last year with nearly 2,300 MW, followed by Indiana with 905 MW and Iowa with 879 MW. The gains came despite billionaire oil tycoon T. Boone Pickens' announcement last summer that he would postpone construction of a huge wind farm in Texas.

Wind accounted for about 6 percent of the electricity produced last year in Texas, according to the state.

Wind power generated only about 1 percent of power supply for the entire country last year.

Bode said if the country adopted national renewable-electricity mandates investors would put more money into building transmission lines to carry more wind from the gusty center of the country to cities with high power demand.

\*\*\*

**CLIMATE; Florida's Interim GOP Senator Brings 'Open Mind' to Cap-and-Trade Debate –**  
*Environment & Energy Daily – 1/26/10*

By Darren Samuelsohn

There are many reasons for a Florida senator to sign on to global warming legislation, from the state's 1,400 miles of vulnerable coastline to the predominance of low-carbon nuclear power used to keep homes cool in the summer humidity.

But George LeMieux is anything but a normal Florida senator.

Last August, Gov. Charlie Crist (R) picked LeMieux, his former chief of staff, to fill out the remaining 16 months of Sen. Mel Martinez's (R) term after he abruptly quit the job.

LeMieux's appointment drew immediate scrutiny because Crist is running for the same Senate seat in November -- a race that has proven to be far from a slam dunk thanks to a Republican challenger who is questioning the governor's conservative credentials.

So with an Aug. 24 GOP primary looming, LeMieux and Crist are being extra careful not to anger the base voters most likely to show up at the polls, something that is not easy to do with well-documented records working on aggressive policies to combat global warming.

In an interview last week, LeMieux insisted that he would not be a proxy vote for Crist on Capitol Hill. At the same time, the 40-year-old Fort Lauderdale native said that whatever he does, he is still not sure where he will fall in the national climate debate that is sure to trigger campaign ads back in the Sunshine State.

"I'm listening," LeMieux said. "I think any Floridian has to be focused on these issues because of the unique situation our state is in with the longest coastline in the continental United States. And I have to be responsible. I have to be cognizant on that."

LeMieux said he is already engaging with the Obama administration, Democrats and other Republicans on the global warming issue even though he is not 100 percent sold on climate science.

"I can't tell you whether or not the science is right or not because I don't understand enough about science," LeMieux said. "I don't have a scientific background. But I kind of view it like life insurance. I don't expect to die young. But I've bought life insurance because I want to make sure my children are taken care of if something were to happen to me. And I think we've got a responsibility to take measures so that if the science is right, and if we have this problem, that we're doing something about it."

LeMieux said he is wavering on whether a cap-and-trade program is the best approach to curbing greenhouse gas emissions, even though he helped create exactly that kind of system while working for Crist in the governor's office.

"I've got to learn a lot more," he said. "I don't like any taxes. But I'm a big believer in nuclear power, and if we build 100 new nuclear power plants, that'd be a lot less carbon being put into the air."

Overall, LeMieux said he is focused on the potential economic burdens that a climate policy would have on Florida with its 11.5 percent unemployment rate. But that said, he is not foreclosing his options.

"I think there's a way to have our cake and eat it too without putting burdens on consumers," he said. "As T. Boone Pickens says, we're sending \$400 billion overseas to people who don't like us. I think there's a way to work on energy independence and have a good result that's also good for the environment."

Lobbying on many levels

Climate bill advocates are hopeful LeMieux will be on their side in the Senate debate, and they have been lobbying him to take a more public role in the talks between the Obama administration and Sens. John Kerry (D-Mass.), Lindsey Graham (R-S.C.) and Joe Lieberman (I-Conn.). That Senate trio needs more Republican support if they are going to have any shot at the 60 votes needed to pass a bill.

"He's only in office for a short period of time, but he can make a difference," said Colleen Castille, a Tallahassee-based renewable energy lobbyist who held several high-ranking environmental posts under former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush (R).

Steve Murchie, Sarasota-based senior regional outreach coordinator for the National Wildlife Federation, said LeMieux merits attention as a possible "yes" vote because of his past record in the Crist administration. In 2007, LeMieux helped Crist organize a highly publicized climate summit with California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger (R). He also wrote executive orders to set up a state-based cap-and-trade program to limit greenhouse gas emissions.

"Everybody who's following the federal legislation is focused on the same cluster of senators, whether it's the American Petroleum Institute or whoever is trying to move them in one direction or another," Murchie said. "He certainly fits into the group of Republicans who can work on this."

Florida-based environmentalists are trying to appeal to LeMieux on several levels. They have cited the economic benefits for the home state's biofuels industry, as well as its status as the second largest state in terms of large-scale solar projects. As for the science, NASA reported last week that the last decade was the warmest on record.

"NASA is pretty credible here in Florida," Murchie said.

But conservatives and business groups are leaning on LeMieux to stay far away from the climate debate, both when it comes to Senate negotiations and the House-passed legislation (H.R. 2454) that split the Florida congressional delegation straight along party lines: 15 Republicans against it, nine of 10 Democrats supported it, with Rep. Alcee Hastings (D) absent.

"We view cap and trade as an energy tax," said Everett Wilkinson, chairman of the South Florida Tea Party. "We hope that Senator LeMieux would do the right thing and vote against any taxes on the American people, specifically energy taxes."

"I'll just say that like the senator, I'm not a scientist, and I don't have all the answers either," added Adam Basford, the national affairs coordinator at the Florida Farm Bureau Federation. "What I do know is that mandatory caps like the ones in the House bill will drive up the cost of input costs for farmers, families and businesses as well as decrease the land available for food production."

LeMieux has a short record in the Senate when it comes to the climate debate. Shortly after taking office, he wrote a letter to Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) pledging to block the start of any floor debate on a Energy and Natural Resources Committee-approved bill (S. 1462) that could bring oil and gas rigs closer to Florida's Gulf Coast.

He has also angered environmental groups with his decision last week to co-sponsor a resolution from Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska) that would strip U.S. EPA's authority to regulate for greenhouse gas emissions.

"We think that's a disappointing decision on his part, but I don't think that clearly tells us where he stands on Congress enacting legislation," said Jay Lyles, a policy consultant at the Florida Wildlife Federation. "If that's how he feels, then we'd certainly encourage him to support legislation so we can regulate greenhouse gas emissions."

A Crist proxy?

The Senate GOP primary cannot help but cloud LeMieux's own efforts.

Crist's opponent, former House Speaker Marco Rubio (R), has tapped into a conservative groundswell to threaten the governor's status as the GOP frontrunner. To many Florida political observers, this makes it all the more difficult for LeMieux as he weighs whether to take on a more prominent role on Capitol Hill.

"He's in a tough spot," said Kevin Wagner, a state politics expert at Florida Atlantic University. "The timing isn't great for LeMieux, unfortunately. I don't know that even Lindsey Graham would give him enough cover unless there's a substantial number of Republicans. But just because of the nature of the Republican electorate in the primary, I wouldn't expect you'd see LeMieux on any of this."

Unless the economy improves at a substantial rate, Wagner predicts "the smart politics would be to vote against this and play economics in the fall."

But others say LeMieux is well-positioned to start bargaining. "I definitely don't think he's following what the Crist campaign is asking him to do," said Castille, the former secretary of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. "George is very strong. He's committed to actually doing the right thing when in office even though it was his friend and mentor who appointed him."

"Ultimately, if you're a true leader, and an authentic leader, you have to make a decision that's right for Florida, despite the politics," Castille added.

Jerry Karnas, the Florida director of the Environmental Defense Fund, said the Crist-Rubio debate should not have any influence on LeMieux. He thinks this is especially true because Rubio is vulnerable to charges of hypocrisy if he attacks Crist on the climate issue. After all, as House speaker, Rubio "was an equal partner to Crist" in passing legislation that authorized the state to begin setting up a cap-and-trade program or join a regional system.

"It not only passed, it wasn't even a nail-biter," Karnas said. Indeed, Crist's campaign last month highlighted Rubio's record in an ad that stated, "Cap and trade ... carbon taxes ... Rubio had big plans. Now that Rubio is running for Senate he says he's against cap and trade" (E&E Daily, Dec. 15, 2009).

But Wagner said the political landscape has changed dramatically in Florida in just a few years. Crist has largely avoided debate on his own past record on cap-and-trade legislation, and he canceled last summer's second high-profile climate summit for governors.

With conservative turnout expected to be high this summer, Wagner said LeMieux's efforts on climate change will be scrubbed no matter which way he sides, even if it is the opposite direction of Crist's wishes.

"As a political matter, LeMieux is tied to Crist, and whatever LeMieux does, if it's perceived as a negative about Crist, the Rubio campaign will hang it around his neck," Wagner said.

LeMieux said he is not going to worry about Crist's primary as he wades into the climate change debate. "I guess I get that a lot, and I understand why on different issues," he said. "But honestly, I make my decisions based on what I think is right."

The best-case scenario for LeMieux and Crist would entail no debate or votes until after the state Republicans' summertime primary. But Obama and his Senate allies are expected to push for action sooner than that. "I'm sure if he can pick the political timing of it, he'd rather do it after the primary," Murchie said.

Climate advocates are also watching to see if LeMieux decides to run himself for a Senate seat in 2012 against Sen. Bill Nelson (D).

Asked about his future plans, LeMieux replied that he had not made any decisions about what he will do when his term expires. "I'm trying not to focus on campaigning," he said. "I've only been here four months. I'm trying to focus on my job, and I'm doing the best I can in representing 18 million Floridians."

\*\*\*

**DFW Airport Stops Letting Natural Gas-Powered Taxis Go First – Dallas Morning News Blog – 1/26/10**

By Elizabeth Souder

So much for the Pickens Plan at Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport.

My colleague, Eric Torbenson, writes:

The airport halted its practice of letting compressed natural gas powered taxis go to the front of the line for fares after the taxi drivers association won a hearing Monday to restore a temporary injunction against the policy.

Airport spokesman David Magana said that the airport stopped giving CNG cabs preference over gas-powered taxis on Monday night after a state judge ruled in favor of the taxicab drivers.

The airport last week succeeded in getting an initial injunction stopped and resumed its preference policy. The taxi association had sued the airport on grounds that it lacked the authority to set such a policy, which the board believes will improve air quality by encouraging operators to use CNG cabs.

The taxi drivers say the new cabs are too expensive and that the average wait for a fare - now at several hours - will only grow longer with the preference policy. D/FW Airport has about 2,100 cabs that do business there.

The suit against the airport continues and a trial date has not been set, said Kelly Hollingsworth, attorney for the taxi association.

T. Boone Pickens' vehicular natural gas company, Clean Energy, had been stumping for the new policy.

\*\*\*

## PRINT COVERAGE

### **Foreign Demand May Drive Gasoline to \$3 a Gallon** – *Dallas Morning News* – 1/27/10

By Elizabeth Souder

America, prepare to pay \$3 a gallon for gasoline again.

Energy experts say gas prices are bound to hit that threshold sometime this year as oil prices rise.

But please spare the filling station manager your wrath. He's not the reason that pump prices across the country are rising.

One key reason for higher fuel prices is economic recovery in developing countries. As the economy improves in parts of Asia, especially China, people use more fuel. That trend continues, even as Americans use less.

"There's no question demand internationally is increasing, and virtually all the major forecasters for the year have been increasing their forecasts for demand worldwide," said John Felmy, chief economist with the American Petroleum Institute industry group.

Rising fuel prices affect everybody, from soccer moms to flower delivery guys. When truckers have to pay more for diesel, everybody ends up paying more for the goods those trucks deliver – food, toys, clothes, electronics, everything.

Of course, economists who doubt the economy is truly recovering question how high oil and gasoline prices can go.

"I'm Mr. Doom. I can't help it," said Peyton Feltus, president of Randolph Risk Management.

He doesn't see a significant rise in oil demand, he doesn't think China's economic recovery will last, and he doesn't see much reason for the U.S. economy to strengthen quickly.

He said that means fuel prices aren't likely to rise.

"I really just don't see it. I want to see it, believe me I do, but I don't see it at all," he said.

Looking up

Oil markets have been recovering during the past few months as some investors anticipate stronger demand.

Also, the U.S. dollar has strengthened against the euro. That means oil, which is priced in dollars, costs less for foreign investors to buy. That dynamic props up oil prices.

During the past few years, oil prices have been extremely volatile, leaving customers at filling stations frustrated by ever-changing pump prices.

On July 3, 2008, the price of an oil futures contract closed at an all-time high of \$145.28 a barrel. The rise was driven by global economic strength, the weak dollar and investors stashing money in the oil markets.

Average U.S. gasoline prices followed, rising as high as \$4.11.

But when the U.S. economy crashed in fall 2008, fuel prices dropped, too. Oil prices closed as low as \$33.87 a barrel by December 2008, and gasoline dipped to \$1.62 a gallon.

Since then, oil prices have been recovering, ending Tuesday at \$74.71, down 0.7 percent, with gasoline at \$2.70 a gallon.

As markets swooned, people in developed countries, including the U.S., were cutting their oil use by using fuel more efficiently.

Last year, liquid fuel consumption in the U.S. dropped 4.2 percent, according to the Department of Energy's Energy Information Administration. That's the second consecutive annual decline.

The only type of liquid fuel that didn't see a decline in demand was gasoline, up just 0.1 percent last year.

Texans, according to the Comptroller of Public Accounts, consumed 5 percent more gasoline in 2009 compared with 2008, but 10 percent less diesel.

#### Global trends

At the same time, people in developing countries such as China were building new industry and buying their first vehicles.

According to a report by Platts energy service, China's oil demand in November rose 18.7 percent year-over-year, the third straight month of double-digit growth.

Mine Yücel, an economist with the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas, said a stronger global economy should boost oil prices. And she expects a recovery.

"I'm pretty bullish on Texas," she said, adding: "It's not going to be a very quick recovery."

The energy agency predicts crude oil prices, which were \$62 a barrel on average last year, will rise to around \$80 this year. The prediction assumes that the U.S. economy grows 2 percent in 2010 and the country demands 2.5 percent more oil.

Higher oil prices would push gasoline to \$2.84 a gallon on average this year, and "pump prices are likely to pass \$3 per gallon at some point during the upcoming spring and summer," the EIA said in a recent report.

#### Supply and demand

As the data show, the price of oil doesn't always follow supply and demand. That was clear in 2008, when prices zoomed astonishingly high, even though no one faced fuel shortages.

Oil analysts with Deutsche Bank expect the relationship between price and demand to return to normal this year. Rather than following equity markets or currency values, oil investors will focus on the fundamentals: Supply and demand.

However, that means oil prices might not recover as much as predicted, Deutsche Bank analysts said in a research note.

There's one problem with focusing on fundamentals. Data on oil supply and demand in many countries are sloppy.

"We are also concerned about the ability of analysts to track oil information in the developing world," Deutsche Bank analysts wrote.

For example, Platts reports China's large demand surge based on "apparent" oil demand, or the amount of crude used by domestic refineries and net oil product imports. The Chinese government releases those numbers but doesn't give an official figure for oil consumption and stockpiles.

Such nuance doesn't slow down the oil bulls.

Dallas energy investor T. Boone Pickens is famously accurate at predicting oil prices. He said earlier this month that oil will hit \$85 a barrel by midyear and \$95 by the end of the year.

And gasoline? He said: "It will be over \$3 this year."

\*\*\*

### **Wind Power** – *Chicago Tribune* – 1/27/10

This letter is in response to Michael J. Donahue's letter on wind power ("Renewable energy," Voice of the People, Jan. 18). Donahue neglects to mention that wind energy is three times more expensive than nuclear energy. There is an inverse relation between the capacity factor and the cost/kwh. Nuclear has a capacity factor of 90 percent. Wind turbines claim a capacity factor of 40 percent on the box, but in the real world the capacity factor is 20 to 25 percent. In Europe, the mean capacity factor is 21 percent over the last five years.

A study at the University of Wisconsin showed that more pollution is generated in building wind-power plants than nuclear when backup systems and fabrication of special materials are included. Wind turbines do not reduce carbon dioxide because they require fossil-fuel backup generators due to the intermittent nature of wind energy. Ninety percent of the wind energy in Great Britain is actually produced by fossil-fuel backup generators. T. Boone Pickens wants to build wind farms because he owns natural gas companies. Follow the money. Wind power will not be economically viable when the government stops the 2 cents/kwh subsidy. Would you like to take out a 30-year \$1 million mortgage on a wind turbine?

—Paul Redfern, Aurora

\*\*\*

## **BLOG/ONLINE COVERAGE**

### **Break Like the Wind: Turbine Industry Is Turbo-Charged** – *Fast Company Blog* – 1/27/10

By MacCabee Montandon

Amazingly, for at least one industry 2009 was the breeziest year ever. The American Wind Energy Association is announcing today that the wind power industry increased its total capacity by 39% last year, which translates to 9,900 more megawatts. This following the previous biggest-gaining year, 2008.

The trade association said that investment funds made available by the stimulus bill were the main reason for the remarkable growth. But not all is sunny for the future of wind. Turbines still only generate 2% of the country's total electrical usage and much of 2009's gains were due to enthusiastic 2008 orders being filled. Still, as global warming continues to be a vexing problem and exploration of alternate energy sources remains robust, the turbine business should thrive.

Some experts are predicting that by 2020 (not as far off as you think!), capacity will hit 180,000 megawatts, or five times more than will be produced in 2010. As is, wind warriors are able to harness enough sweet, sweet air to keep the lights on in close to 10 million homes. Hey, by 2020 there might only be 10 million homes left anyway! Kidding!

Jokes aside, all this growth provides yet more proof of something we all should have learned long, long ago: Never doubt a man named T. Boone Pickens. You'll only come to regret it.

\*\*\*

### **Transmission Holds US Wind Power Back Despite 2009 Record** – *Risk.net* – 1/27/10

By Pauline McCallion

Wind power is now the joint leading source of new electricity generation in the US, tying with natural gas, due to record levels of new capacity last year, according to the American Wind Energy Association (AWEA).

A report released by the AWEA on January 26 showed the US wind industry installed 9,922 megawatts (MW) of new generating capacity last year, breaking all previous records. This 39% expansion of the nation's wind plant fleet has brought total US wind-power generating capacity to more than 35,000 MW.

AWEA chief executive officer Denise Bode attributes the capacity boost to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, passed by President Barack Obama in February 2009. It awarded \$36.7 billion to the Department of Energy, including \$16.8 billion for the US energy efficiency and renewable energy sector, \$4 billion in loan guarantees for renewable energy projects, and \$4.5 billion to develop a smartgrid and more efficient electrical transmission.

In 2009 before the Act was passed, the AWEA said the wind-power industry anticipated development might drop by as much as 50% from 2008 levels.

Together, natural gas and wind power accounted for about 80% of new capacity added in the country last year. The US Department of Energy believes wind power could become a major contributor to US electricity supply. In 2008 it published a report arguing wind power could make up 20% of the supply by 2030.

Another report released by the Department of Energy's National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL) last week showed 20% wind power could be integrated into the Eastern Interconnection's electrical load by 2024. With transmission upgrades, further development of offshore wind capacity and various operational changes, capacity could be pushed up to 30%, according to the study.

David Corbus, NREL project manager for the study, says: "Whether we're talking about using land-based wind in the midwest, offshore wind in the east or any combination of wind-power resources, any plausible scenario requires transmission infrastructure upgrades and we need to start planning for that immediately."

The lack of viable transmission resources has been a perennial problem for the US wind-power sector. Energy hedge fund manager T Boone Pickens recently discontinued his 4,000 MW wind-power project in the Texas Panhandle. Pickens confirmed the move after he was forced to halve an order for 667 GE wind turbines for the wind farm, expected to be the largest in the world.

Jay Rosser, a spokesperson for Pickens' hedge fund, BP Capital, said the company is now pursuing projects in Minnesota and Canada to place some of the 333 turbines purchased from GE.

"Boone's plans for an expansive wind farm in the Panhandle have been delayed for a number of reasons, chief of them being the lack of transmission in that region," said Rosser. "He believes projects there will be developed once the transmission problem is resolved, the natural gas market improves and other issues are resolved, and he believes the considerable funds he has invested in that region for wind power will pay off."

\*\*\*

### **10 GW of Wind Power Installed in U.S. Last Year – EcoGeek – 1/27/10**

By Megan Treacy

With all of the conflict over Cape Wind and the constant reduction in scope of T. Boone Pickens' wind projects, it's easy to feel discouraged, but here's something to lift your spirits. Great news came from the American Wind Energy Association today. During 2009, 10 GW of new wind power capacity was installed in the U.S., enough to power 2.4 million homes. The last quarter of 2009 saw the installation of 4 GW alone.

The association gives credit to the American Recovery and Investment Act's \$80 billion investment in clean energy for the largest installation for any year so far. You can read the association's full report on the year in wind here (PDF).

With big wind projects on the horizon for the next few years, and if all goes as planned, that annual number should keep going up.

\*\*\*

### **Arab-American Group 'Outraged' by Pickens Commercial – Dallas Morning News Blog – 1/26/10**

By Elizabeth Souder

A group of Arab-Americans is taking issue with T. Boone Pickens' new commercial, saying the oil investor uses "racist tactics" to promote his energy plan, according to a Bloomberg story.

The ad, which urges Americans to switch to domestic natural gas for vehicle fuel rather than foreign oil, flashes sentences in Arabic. Pickens has spent millions supporting legislation to curb foreign oil imports.

American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee in Washington says it is "outraged" by the commercial.

According to Bloomberg, Pickens spokesman Jay Rosser connected the underwear bomber with foreign oil dependence.

"Given the attempted terrorist attack over the Christmas holidays, what Americans want is a solution to our growing national crisis that is associated with our ever-increasing dependence on foreign oil," Pickens spokesman Jay Rosser said in a video explaining the ad campaign. "So our ad will call attention to that."

Bloomberg says:

A Nigerian, Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab, tried to blow up a Dec. 25 Northwest Airlines flight from Amsterdam to Detroit using explosives in his underwear, according to the U.S. Justice Department. Nigeria, the fifth-largest oil exporter to the U.S. in the first 10 months of 2009, is not an Arab country.

The Yemeni branch of al-Qaeda claimed responsibility for the attack. Yemen, an Arab country which borders Saudi Arabia, listed no oil exports to the U.S. in 2007 and 2008, according to the Energy Department.

The Pickens commercial's "characterizations of an entire people in a region of the world are inaccurate, offensive and outright discriminatory," according to the ADC's statement.

\*\*\*