

PickensPlan

T. Boone Pickens Media Coverage 4.28.10

Total of 5 Placements

- Print: 1
- Blog/Online: 3
- Broadcast: 1

Coverage Summary:

The Huffington Post published an interview and a story on Pickens where he discusses energy legislation and natural gas as a transportation fuel. Here is a link to the video:

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2010/04/28/t-boone-pickens-climate-c_n_554802.html

The *USA Today* article describes the process of hydraulic fracturing and some of the concerns people have with this technique.

Highlighted Placements (Full Articles Below)

- **T. Boone Pickens: Climate Change Bill Is Coming, 'It's Too Important For The Security Of America'** – *Huffington Post* – 4/28/10

Notable Natural Gas Coverage (Full Articles Below)

- **Natural Gas Supply, Jobs And Technique Debate Booming** – *USA Today* – 4/28/10

Blog/Online Placements (Full Articles Below)

- **Natural Gas Act Vote Delayed** – *Global Warming Examiner* – 4/27/10
- **More Oil Dependent Than Ever** – *LA Observed* – 4/27/10

HIGHLIGHTED COVERAGE

T. Boone Pickens: Climate Change Bill Is Coming, 'It's Too Important For The Security Of America' – *Huffington Post* – 4/28/10

T. Boone Pickens, the legendary oil investor and, more recently, a devout champion of ending America's reliance on fossil fuels, said on Tuesday that he's confident the Obama administration's hotly-anticipated climate change bill will be announced soon by Sen. Harry Reid (D-Nevada).

Pickens, who spoke on Tuesday with HuffPost's Ryan McCarthy at the Milken Institute's Global Conference in Los Angeles, said he's been working closely with Senators Kerry, Lieberman and Graham to ensure the bill will include tax credits for natural gas fuels for trucks and manufacturers.

"[Natural gas is] the only resource we have in America that will move an 18-wheeler other than diesel, and we're importing the diesel," Pickens said. "It's cleaner, cheaper, abundant and ours. We're fools not to do this."

Pickens added that he'll support the legislation -- provided it includes the natural gas credits he called for. Pickens is pushing tax credits of \$65,000 for the purchase of natural-gas powered trucks.

"I don't know the other parts of the bill," Pickens said. "But I will be for the bill. I will just have to accept the other parts because this is too important for the security of America."

Despite the ballooning Federal deficit, Pickens said America's economy can't wait to pass a climate bill that would cut America's dependence on fossil fuels. "Foreign oil is two thirds of the trade deficit," he said. "We gotta get this thing down."

Switching America's trucks to natural gas, Pickens said, will pay immediate dividends to the economy. "When we accomplish that, which is going to take us we will cut OPEC in half. We are importing 5 billion barrels a day from OPEC. And with 8 million [in America] 18-wheelers we can take out 2.5 million barrels a day."

Pickens, who famously took oil executives to task in the 1980s for their huge pay packages, declined to comment on the financial crisis and Wall Street pay.

"You won't see me on anything else but energy," Pickens said. "I'm out of politics."

NOTABLE NATURAL GAS COVERAGE

Natural Gas Supply, Jobs And Technique Debate Booming – *USA Today* – 4/28/10

By Dan Vergano

Robert Myers spends a lot of time hiking and fishing in state forests, "places where my grandfather went hunting," he says.

But the hiking grounds for this Lock Haven, Pa., English professor and local activist are changing with what some critics say is the threat to the environment that comes as part of the latest boom: the hunt for natural gas. And Myers hates what it's doing to the Eastern forests. "It sickens me what the gas wells are doing to the places I love."

Energy companies increasingly are drilling into the Marcellus Shale, a mile-or-so-deep layer of methane-rich black rock stretching from Tennessee to New York. The layers of shale are being tapped for natural-gas deposits, which in turn has led to a boost in U.S. natural-gas supplies, lower energy prices for consumers and jobs in areas hit hard by unemployment.

But the supply boom has arrived with new concerns about the potential environmental damage from techniques used to retrieve the gas.

The debate highlights the choices the USA faces as it pursues a greener economy: If burning natural gas in place of some coal can cut carbon dioxide emissions, what environmental risks are we willing to tolerate?

In March, the Environmental Protection Agency announced that a science panel would examine the safety of hydraulic fracturing, a decades-old but much-improved drilling technology behind the boom.

Hydraulic fracturing cracks shale with water mixed with chemicals and fills the cracks with sandy grit, allowing gas trapped in the shale to bubble out. But among the environmental concerns raised by the process: chemical leaks, wear and tear on forests and roads and even minor earthquakes.

Once the sands of an inland sea, about 20 such deposits lie in North America, filled with methane produced by the decay from the bugs, plants and animals that ended up in the ancient ooze. The U.S. Geological Survey estimates that 200 trillion cubic feet of natural gas may be recoverable from these shales in a country that consumes about 23 trillion cubic feet a year.

But that may be a conservative estimate: The actual amount of natural gas in the "Big Seven" deposits, which includes Marcellus and shales in Texas, Arkansas and elsewhere, may be even bigger. In 2008, Penn State geoscientist Terry Englander estimated that the Marcellus alone might have more than 516 trillion cubic feet.

"It's a boom," says environmental engineer Jeanne Van-Briesen of Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh. "That means a lot of choices, a lot of consequences good and bad."

Pittsburgh, for example, is where the Monongahela and Allegheny rivers meet to start the Ohio River. And two years ago, the Monongahela River's salt levels reached excessive amounts, probably in part because of the "flowback" water from new hydraulic fracturing wells draining into the river, adding to acid-laced leaks from coal mines, VanBriesen and colleagues find.

Power plant operators along the river, who need the water for cooling, were first to detect the problem when they spotted corrosion on scrubbing equipment. Fish have died in rivers near Myers' hiking trails, which he blames on the wells.

A risk of runoffs

"Energy and water mix hand in hand," says environmental biophysicist Susan Riha of Cornell University in Ithaca, N.Y. With hydraulic fracturing, she says, potential risks range from the chance of chemicals such as benzene leaking into local drinking water to landscape damage to questions about who benefits from a new energy boom.

"I started out worried about what was happening in state forests," Myers says. "But now I see much wider effects, in streams and public safety."

Alongside private landowners, Myers' state leases well sites on public lands to energy companies near Lock Haven. Digging a well at such sites requires clearing a 5-acre patch of forest and digging a sludge pit for the flowback water, which is often laced with salt and proprietary chemicals from the fracturing process. By 2008, more than 450 wells had been dug in Pennsylvania in three years, according to the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

In 2005, the Bush administration exempted gas wells from storm water discharge permits, a decision the EPA may revisit when the science review is completed. "Any time you have an open pit, you have the risk of runoffs," Riha says.

Most prominently, the non-profit news organization ProPublica reported in a 2008 investigation more than 1,000 cases in which hydraulic-fracturing-related wells have been tied to leaks or accidents, including fires.

Adding to debate over hydraulic fracturing, Riha says, the risks and benefits of the boom aren't doled out evenly: Landowners who lease to well drillers see financial gains, while their neighbors worry about their drinking water wells suffering methane and chemical contamination. They also have to drive on crumbling roads crowded with oversized fracturing-water trucks.

And some of the risks might be more exotic. In March, a *Leading Edge* journal study led by seismologist Brian Stump of Southern Methodist University in Dallas suggested hydraulic fracturing had triggered small earthquakes in Texas in 2008 and 2009, when flowback water was "deep-injected" onto an earthquake fault, one method of getting rid of wastewater that doesn't let it flow into streams.

"The history of the region is people exploiting the resources, ruining the wilderness, and then leaving the mess behind," says Myers, an English professor at Lock Haven (Pa.) University.

But that's a tough argument in a region eager for jobs. "I've attended county meetings to discuss gas wells where the crowd has been pretty hostile," Myers says. "The last thing they want is a tree-hugging English professor saying they might endanger their neighbors with their lease."

Indeed, the head of the Clinton County Economic Partnership where Lock Haven is based says the drilling has brought jobs and "new wealth" to an area with 9.5% unemployment.

"It's like someone dropped a new bag of money" on the region, says Michael Flanagan, president and CEO of the Clinton County group. "That said, we also understand the environmental concerns" but believe they're "controllable."

The bigger picture

Assuming the safety of drinking water remains the central question, "there's no reason to think EPA's current study will render results that differ a whole lot from the various other studies that have been done on the subject," says Chris Tucker of Energy in Depth, a natural-gas industry group based in Washington. He notes a 2004 EPA report that found the technology "safe and well-regulated."

Climate change makes the hydraulic fracturing debate a bigger one than just another row pitting energy companies against environmentalists. "The story in all this is how we deal with thinking through the water and climate impacts of our energy choices," VanBriesen says.

On the climate side, natural gas produces only about half of the carbon-dioxide emissions of coal burned to produce electricity, according to the Energy Information Administration. In January, a Congressional Research Service report suggested that doubling the nation's electric power

generation from gas, with a corresponding drop in coal, would reduce current coal-plant carbon dioxide emissions by 19%, lowering total U.S greenhouse gas emissions by about 6% overall.

"We could, today, simply through the increased use of existing natural-gas fired power plants, meaningfully reduce the CO₂ emissions of the power sector," natural gas plant chief Jack Fusco of the Calpine Corp. told senators in October. Former senator Timothy Wirth, D-Colo., head of the United Nations Foundation, has called natural gas a "bridge fuel" for switching from fossil fuels to renewable, climate-friendly-ones in this century.

"Any changes in how we get energy are going to be disruptive," Riha says. Even wind turbines, prime examples of renewable energy, have faced opposition from landowners in New York state and Pennsylvania who are worried about their mountain views.

"People think it is some sort of minor change switching to a green economy, but no energy system is a seamless solution without environmental impacts," Riha says. "People need to start coming to grips with the future."

BLOG/ONLINE COVERAGE

Natural Gas Act Vote Delayed – *Global Warming Examiner* – 4/27/10

By John Ryden

Apparently the Natural Gas Act (HR 1835, S 1408) votes will be delayed. Originally, these bills were expected to be voted on by the end of May. Congress is now saying that they may take up Immigration Reform before they can consider any energy legislation.

This is hugely disappointing. The Natural Gas Act could be the most significant economic legislation at a time when the country needs to stimulate our economy to create jobs. Isn't this Barack Obama's top priority?

The Natural Gas Act would:

1. Provide tax incentives to promote the use of natural gas vehicles particularly heavy duty vehicles like trucks.
2. Promote the domestic production of natural gas vehicles by allowing manufacturers to expense the cost of building new manufacturing capacity.
3. Provide tax credits for the installation of natural gas pumps at service stations and for at-home fueling systems.
4. Provide tax credits for the purchase of natural gas vehicles
5. Decrease our output of carbon into the atmosphere as natural gas contains about 30% less carbon for the same energy output.

The benefits to the economy would be tremendous:

1. Substitute domestic natural gas for imported oil, thus reducing our dependence on foreign oil.
2. Reduce our trade deficit.
3. Increase investment and jobs in our domestic natural gas industry.

4. Increase investment and jobs in our domestic auto and truck industry.

This bill could create million of American jobs. We spend about \$1 billion per day to import foreign oil. This is like a huge tax on our economy.

We also spend billions of dollars per year on our military to protect our access to foreign oil. We fight wars where we are funding both sides of the war. (Money for Islamic terrorists comes from countries whose oil we purchase.)

T. Boone Pickens, who has been advocating for these bills, thinks that the votes are there in congress to pass this legislation. These are tough bills to vote against. Voting against it is a vote against American Energy and American Jobs. These bills should be a top priority in congress.

More Oil Dependent Than Ever – *LA Observed* – 4/27/10

By Mark Lacter

Here's an interesting chart from the Milken Institute's Global Conference that shows the increasing percentages of oil coming in from foreign sources. Ted Turner and T. Boone Pickens discussed the energy problem in a session moderated by Michael Milken ([here's the link](#)) on Monday. They both pushed for federal legislation that would stress cleaner, greener domestically produced energy (Pickens was pushing natural gas). As usual, Turner was all over the place, at one point taking a couple of shots at Time Warner, which unceremoniously pushed him aside. On energy he said:

Not only do I like wind and solar because they're free and not depletable, I want to see us do more work in geothermal too. This is where the big money is going to be made. If we don't do it, China and the eastern countries are going to do it. We need to be the leaders in clean, renewable energy. All we have to do is pass a law in Washington. One of the things that law need to do is stop subsidizing coal and oil. You're subsidizing the wrong things.

BROADCAST COVERAGE

1. Bloomberg News

Bloomberg, National | DMA: 0

04/27/2010, 09:00 AM - 10:00 AM

[EC] 00:42:11 It is like watching Mary Poppins and Will Rogers on stage that was casino magnet Steve Wynn's review of the Ted Turner **Boone Pickens** conversation yesterday at the Milken Institute Global Conference in Beverly Hills. And our correspondent Willow is at the conference Willow what was your review of the Ted Turner **Boone Pickens** duo? It was extraordinary. We knew going in I spoke to Mike Milken last night and I asked him what he was most excited about and he said **Boone Pickens** and Ted Turner is going to be one for the ages and as you could tell from Steve Wynn's reaction that they did not disappoint. They are extremely colorful business men and environmentalist. Someone asked Ted a question about Time Warner. Here's what he had to say. We have to stop doing the dumb things, and start doing the smart things. We had 5% of Google in a music merger and I said to Dick Parsons, I think we ought to hang on to that Google stock this was about 10 years ago. He said that company is a bunch of [beep] and we are lucky we got this and we are going to sell it the minute we get it... 00:45:40

Keywords: Milken Institute Conference; Will Rogers; Mary Poppins; Steve Wynn; Ted Turner; **Boone Pickens**; Google; Dick Parsons; CNN-FM; CNBC; Bloomberg; Rupert Murdoch; Goldman Sachs; James McCoffin, CEO, Principal Global Investors;

Speakers: Willow Bay, Bloomberg; Ted Turner, Turner Enterprises, Chairman;

Audience: N/A **Spot Cost:** N/A

The logo for PickensPlan, featuring the text "PickensPlan" in white and blue on a dark blue rectangular background.