

PickensPlan

T. Boone Pickens Media Coverage 4.29.10

Total of 7 Placements

- Print: 4
- Blog/Online: 3

Coverage Summary:

A *Motor Matters* piece that looks at the benefits of natural gas vehicles mentions Pickens as a supporter of this fuel. It also mentions the op-ed by former CIA director James Woolsey which supported Pickens' plan. The piece was picked up by the *Contra Costa Times* and *Oakland Tribune*.

The Auto Channel picked up a press release previewing the Alternative Fuels & Vehicles National Conference, which Pickens will be speaking at on May 9th.

Highlighted Placements (Full Articles Below)

- **Green Wheeling: Natural Gas Is A Natural Fuel Solution For Carmakers, U.S.** – *Motor Matters* – 4/28/10
 - *Contra Costa Times*
 - *Oakland Tribune*
- **Alternative Fuels & Vehicles National Conference + Expo 2010** – *The Auto Channel* – 4/28/10

Print Placements (Full Articles Below)

- **Fractured Gas Well Questions Multiply** – *Sequoyah County Times* – 4/28/10

Blog/Online Placements (Full Articles Below)

- **HUFFPOST HILL: APRIL 28, 2010** – *Huffington Post* – 4/28/10
- **CNBC Sees Oil Enemies Around Every Corner** – *London Evening Standard Blog* – 4/29/10

HIGHLIGHTED COVERAGE

Green Wheeling: Natural Gas Is A Natural Fuel Solution For Carmakers, U.S. – *Motor Matters* – 4/28/10

By Dan Carney

Most discussions relating to green cars, diversification of fuel supplies and reduction of dependence on foreign oil look into the hazy distant future. Someday our cars may well run on hydrogen/fusion/sunshine/rainbows, consume no significant resources and create no significant pollution.

In the present, right now, we already have a fuel available that represents a substantial improvement over gasoline in terms of pollution, greenhouse gases, fuel diversity and domestic supplies. Oh, and its cheaper than gasoline. That fuel, favorite of Texas oil and gas businessman T. Boone Pickens' advertising campaign, is natural gas. (www.boonepickens.com).

So, what are the strikes against natural gas? The need to build more natural gas filling stations to support cars that use the fuel, and the space occupied by the larger fuel tank such vehicles use. But these are insignificant hurdles when considered against the current shortcomings of electric, fuel cell and even hybrid electric cars today.

It makes no sense that the nation isn't moving forward to build a natural gas fuel supply infrastructure and isn't taking steps to encourage carmakers to offer natural gas models. It is a scandal that today only Honda offers a factory-built natural gas car in the U.S., the Civic GX. The American Council for an Energy Efficient Economy has named the Civic GX the "Greenest Car in America" for five consecutive years.

Honda recently shifted production of the natural gas Civic from Ohio to a new zero-waste plant Indiana last year, making even its assembly as green as possible. Fortunately, Ford is expanding natural gas vehicle availability, sort of, with the introduction of dealer-installed conversion kits for its enormous E-series full-size vans and its compact Transit Connect minivans.

Ford expects that the natural gas option will especially appeal to the fleet operators who buy these vans because of their centralized refueling. But modern navigation systems and smart phones make it easier to locate natural gas fueling facilities while driving, making natural gas more practical for regular consumers, too.

Natural gas is cheaper at the pump than gasoline is currently. According to Ford, 87 percent of natural gas in the U.S. is domestically sourced, so it is insulated from currency fluctuations, trade embargoes or other factors that can cause gasoline prices to vary.

Natural gas vehicles produce virtually no smog-forming pollution and between 30 and 40 percent less carbon dioxide. "Another natural benefit for these fuels is they provide an overall lower emission of greenhouse gases compared to gasoline," says Rob Stevens, Transit Connect chief engineer. "Additionally, operating on [natural gas] provides the operators lower fuel/operating costs for their fleet."

At \$25,340, the Honda Civic GX is more expensive than other Civic models, even the Civic hybrid. But it qualifies for a \$4,000 federal tax credit, which effectively slices that amount off the purchase price to make it more affordable.

The tax credit should similarly offset the cost of Ford's conversion kit for the Transit Connect. Unlike hybrid vehicles with their costly electrical components and batteries, or diesels with their platinum-coated pollution controls, there is nothing inherently expensive about natural gas vehicles, so if they were to go into true mass production, they shouldn't be much, if any, more expensive than conventional gasoline cars.

This is why former CIA director James Woolsey editorializes in support of Pickens' plan for increased use of natural gas in our cars. Woolsey also points out in a recent Wall Street Journal commentary that the fuel is ideal for commercial customers because of centralized fueling. There are no significant obstacles to all of us employing natural gas fuel rather than the more costly, dirty and geo-politically complicated gasoline we burn today.

Alternative Fuels & Vehicles National Conference + Expo 2010 – *The Auto Channel* –
4/28/10

Featuring the Leading Fuel and Technology Neutral Experts in the Nation

Las Vegas, NV - Alternative Fuel Vehicle Institute (AFVi) presents the 16th annual Alternative Fuels & Vehicles National Conference + Expo, May 9-12 in Las Vegas, Nevada. International fleet, government and industry professionals will gather for four days of information and product previews. The premier national conference covering all alternative fuels, vehicles and advanced technologies offers the answers that fleets, policy-makers and advocates for clean transportation choices are looking for.

The Conference features nationally recognized leaders in the fields of fuels, emissions, vehicles, policy, foreign relations and climate change. Industry icon T. Boone Pickens, with an introduction by former CIA Director R. James Woolsey, kicks off the event May 9 with a Town Hall Meeting. Monday, May 10, Las Vegas Mayor Oscar B. Goodman welcomes attendees to his city. In addition to Mr. Woolsey, the Monday morning opening features Margo Oge, Environmental Protection Agency Director of Transportation and Air Quality, and Eric Cahill, Senior Director of the Automotive X Prize. John Davis, Host and Executive Producer of PBS' MotorWeek, leads the charge on May 11. After his keynote, leading manufacturer representatives from American Honda Motor Company, Ford Motor Sales, General Motors LLC, Toyota Motor Sales, Vehicle Production Group and Westport Innovations unveil their new model-year products.

“In the history of transportation, the only thing that comes close to this level of change is the transition 100 years ago from the horse and buggy to the internal combustion engine,” said Annaloyd Thomason, Executive Director of AFVi. “2010 doesn't even resemble 2008 with the addition of plug-in hybrid electric, fuel cell, dedicated CNG, hydraulic hybrids and a rapidly expanding marketplace for all alternative fuels.”

Up-to-the minute information is presented by 150 experts on every angle of the industry including funding, product, regulations, fueling, fleet case studies, research and social media. The Conference + Expo features more than 85 exhibitors, a Vehicle Technology Parade, guided

Expo Hall tours, and the ever popular Ride-n-Drive/Ride Along, featuring light-, medium- and heavy-duty vehicles.

This event brings together more than 1,000 attendees who share the mission of reducing petroleum consumption and greenhouse gas emissions from the transportation sector. The AFV Conference + Expo is presented on behalf of AFVi's sponsors, including: American Honda Motor Company, ANGI Energy Systems, Booz Allen Hamilton, Bosch Diesel Systems, Chrysler/GEM, Clean Energy, Creative Bus Sales, Dixie Chopper, Encana Corporation, Ford Motor Sales, General Motors LLC, GreenField Compression, Landi Renzo S.p.A., Linde Group, Luxfer Gas

Cylinders, National Biodiesel Board, Propane Education & Research Council, Renewable Fuels Association, ROUSH Performance, THINK, Toyota Motor Sales, South Coast Air Quality Management District, Vehicle Production Group and Westport Innovations.

Alternative Fuel Vehicle Institute (AFVi) is an entrepreneurial organization that works through industry to bring people in need of proven transportation technologies together with those who can meet their needs. AFVi is fuel and technology neutral. More information on the conference is available by going to www.afv2010.com.

PRINT COVERAGE

Fractured Gas Well Questions Multiply – *Sequoyah County Times* – 4/28/10

By Jim Mayo

The question of whether or not an injection well to dispose of oil and gas well fluids will be opened in Vian remains on hold while an Oklahoma Corporation Commission referee considers the application and the protests against it.

The Vian well is in a semi-dormant status awaiting the referee's decision, but the larger issues of new and wide-spread use of hydraulic fracturing techniques in gas wells and disposal of the waste water that results from them have grown.

Of immediate interest is the fact that four new injection wells have opened in Arkansas near Fort Smith. The Oklahoma Corporation Commission reports that the amount of waste saltwater coming from Arkansas into the 18 counties of commission District IV, which includes Sequoyah County, dropped from 925,566 barrels in the quarter ending Dec. 31, 2009 to 25,000 barrels for the quarter ending March 31, 2010. The new wells are likely taking much of the water that was coming here. However, this is but a small part of the total water injected in the district during the two time periods. Just because Arkansas drillers aren't sending as much waste to us as they once did doesn't mean the issue has passed.

I think it is important to consider as a whole the subjects of fractured wells, injection wells and soil farming, which is a way of attempting to dispose of waste salt water above ground and is the subject of much protest in Haskell County. Each is a part of the effort to increase production of natural gas.

When you see T. Boone Pickens on TV boosting gas, or read about rapidly increasing supplies of domestic natural gas, it is largely the hydraulically fractured wells that produce the gas.

I am indebted to my sister, Andy, in Beaumont, Texas, for sending along a story from the April 11 issue of the Houston Chronicle.

It reports on a potential disaster underway in the small town of Daisetta, Texas, which is located about 55 miles northeast of Houston.

On May 7, 2008, a sinkhole as wide as two football fields developed near this small town of 230. As that sinkhole developed, a quarter-mile away a geyser of fluid gushed from an abandoned well on property owned by the community's mayor. The mayor said in the April 11 article that he had to cut down 100 trees on his property that were killed by the fluid.

The article went on to say, "In the first published report providing any explanation for the phenomenon, a Texas Commission on Environmental Quality adviser theorized injection disposal wells may be primarily responsible for destabilizing the area and creating a kind of quicksand 1,000 feet below that led to the collapse."

The town has hired a law firm to investigate and sue the people responsible, if that can be determined.

In addition to the sinkhole and dead trees and vegetation, the city worries that its water wells may also become contaminated.

The article said the Texas Railroad Commission conducted investigations and found nothing in violation of its regulations other than an instance when an injection well operator injected more waste than his permit allowed. The Railroad Commission is the Texas equivalent of our Oklahoma Corporation Commission. Both regulate the oil and gas industry.

Injection well operators and regulators have said many times that there is little or no risk involved in injecting oil and gas well waste into underground formations. People in Daisetta aren't convinced. The Chronicle article reported that "... an engineering company drilling a backup well for the city detected traces of toluene and naphthalene in its water sample.... the engineer recommended abandoning the \$93,000 project and drilling somewhere else."

While hydraulic fracturing of oil wells has been going on for years, the wholesale fracturing of gas wells using millions of gallons of water under tremendous pressures is relatively new, and so some of the problems with the technique are also new.

Oklahoma is highly dependent on the oil and gas industry. One of the reasons we are in such a slump is the decline in prices for gas, partly brought on by the Great Recession. Partly because of this, state government is almost broke. Clearly, we all have a stake in what happens to oil and gas production.

We also have a huge stake in controlling and eliminating pollution and improving public safety. That is why people in Vian are so upset over the proposed injection well that would be located only a few blocks from the Vian school.

All of the problems surrounding frac wells have drawn the attention of the nation media. In recent weeks, the Wall Street Journal published an extensive article about the subject, the Public Broadcasting System program NOW featured a segment that would scare your pants off, and newspapers here and there are picking up on the story as it develops.

In the NOW segment, a man in a home near a fractured well turned on a water faucet in a kitchen and ignited the gas that came out into a ball of flames.

Congress has promised to hold hearings into the various issues surrounding the ever-growing complaints.

The oil and gas industry, and to some extent the government agencies which regulate them, are fond of saying that fracturing oil and gas wells and disposal of fluids down injection wells is nothing new.

It seems to me that while that may be true, there is still much more we don't know about what we are doing than what we do know, and ignorance can be downright dangerous.

We should proceed with great caution.

BLOG/ONLINE COVERAGE

HUFFPOST HILL: APRIL 28, 2010 – *Huffington Post* – 4/28/10

Senate GOP relented and will allow debate on financial reform, Charlie Crist is running as an independent, Rick Perry wasted a coyote, we're unsure if Guam is underwater and the dude third in line for the presidency is one day closer to 100. This is HUFFPOST HILL for April 28th, 2010:

BREAKING

THE COTS DID THE TRICK - Democrats had planned to make a motion for consent to proceed to the bill every hour on the hour, with freshmen and sophomores pulling night duty. With the specter of the all-night session before them -- the cots had actually been sent for -- Republicans threw in the towel and will allow debate on Wall Street reform to go forward. "Senate Republicans have finally agreed to let us begin this debate, which we appreciate, and we hope this foreshadows more cooperation to come," said Harry Reid.

The GOP just agreed to a unanimous consent request to move forward. Then begins the debate and amendment process -- and another potential filibuster.

"If they're not able to work something out, then I think what we need to do is open it up and go through the amendments on the floor and see if we can't come out with something that does the job that we all want it to do. And if our gang feels that it doesn't work out that way, we still have the right at the tail end not to give cloture," said George Voinovich (R-Ohio), a key moderate whose impatience with negotiations helped break the filibuster, said earlier today.

MCCONNELL STATEMENT ON ENDING GOP FILIBUSTER - "Unfortunately, Sen. Shelby believes that continued talks on a number of provisions affecting Main Street will not bring the negotiators any closer to an agreement. Now that those bipartisan negotiations have ended, it is

my hope that the majority's avowed interest in improving this legislation on the Senate floor is genuine and the partisan gamesmanship is over." <http://bit.ly/9E1QwH>

President Obama praises Senate deal in Illinois. <http://bit.ly/9rkOBu>

EXCLUSIVE: REID SAYS HE HAS IMMIGRATION BILL 'OUTLINE' - Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid told HuffPost Hill today that he is close to having a fully-drafted immigration reform bill. "There's an outline," Reid said after a Wall Street reform press conference, "but it wouldn't be far from legislative language."

Meanwhile, Roll Call will lead tomorrow with Senate Democratic leadership beginning to craft a Democrat-only immigration reform proposal. From John Stanton and Kathleen Hunter:

"Majority Leader Harry Reid (Nev.), Democratic Conference Vice Chairman Charles Schumer (N.Y.) and Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee Chairman Bob Menendez (N.J.) floated a summary of the legislation to immigration groups Wednesday. The package would require that a series of new border security benchmarks be met before broader immigration reforms are enacted -- including a legalization process for illegal immigrants, according to a copy of the summary obtained by Roll Call. The measure would also include tough new rules governing the hiring of illegal immigrants and on visas for both high-tech and low-skill immigrant workers." <http://bit.ly/bZjXqV>

REID: CLIMATE WILL COME FIRST - As the Democratic leadership works out the details of a comprehensive immigration reform bill, the Majority Leader said he will move ahead with climate legislation before addressing immigration. At a press conference today Reid reiterated his commitment to passing immigration overhaul by year's end but said a climate bill will be voted on first. The news comes after Lindsey Graham threatened to pull his support for his own climate initiative if it were placed behind immigration in the Senate's calendar. <http://bit.ly/b3DUdY>

T. Boone Pickens told HuffPost's Ryan McCarthy today that he backs the climate legislation percolating in the Senate. <http://huff.to/bNzHfb>

CITIZENS UNITED RESPONSE - Feingold, Schumer, Wyden AND Bayh will unveil a legislative response to the Citizens United ruling in front of the U.S. Supreme Court, where they'll announce plans to pass the measure by July 4.

INSURANCE INDUSTRY AGREES TO STOP RESCISIONS - The top insurance industry lobby, America's Health Insurance plans, will announce that all of its members will cease rescissions by May, five months before the law goes into effect, two people familiar with AHIP's plans tell HuffPost Hill. The move comes a day after Democratic leaders in the House sent a letter to insurers asking them to do just that. On Tuesday, WellPoint announced it would end the practice, followed by UnitedHealthcare today. The announcement could come as early as this evening, though the insurers are clear they retain the right to rescind policies in cases of fraud or material misrepresentation. Who defines what qualifies as misrepresentation is still a crucial question.

DEATH PANELS *RETURN* -- END-OF-LIFE BILL IS BACK - The House health care provision that Sarah Palin warned would lead to "death panels" never made it into the final bill, but its backers plan to resuscitate it. (Palin's charge, of course, was either a lie, willfully ignorant fearmongering, or genuine confusion. Regardless, it was false.) Earl Blumeneaur's (D-Ore.) measure would allow Medicare to reimburse providers for consulting with patients about end-of-life decisions and directives. "I think it's important to follow through. Before this got hijacked by Sarah Palin and others' talking points, it was actually bipartisan in nature," Blumeneaur tells HuffPost Hill, noting that no one spoke against it in committee, it has previously had Republican cosponsors and it was included in the final House bill. "This could probably could pass on suspension [with two-thirds support], when you remove it from the heated rhetoric." And a note to the Palin crowd: It's voluntary.

CRIST TO RUN AS INDEPENDENT - Florida Governor will hold press conference tomorrow at 5:30PM ET to discuss "the future of his candidacy." Move officially turns the race into a three-way contest between Crist, GOP wunderkind Marco Rubio and Democrat Kendrick Meek. <http://huff.to/aa5T3o>

Marc Ambinder asks key question: Who will run Crist's campaign? "No Republican or Democratic consultant would want to jeopardize future business by associating with him, even though he has a strong chance to win. Same with younger field operatives and many fundraisers. His will be a free-media-reliant campaign, which suggests to me that he's going to be quite mavericky in the months ahead."

Rubio in McLean for Pence fundraiser. - As his soon-to-be opponent readies for an independent run, Marco Rubio will shill for Mike Pence tonight at a fundraiser for the Indiana congressman. The event is being held at the home of Tom and Randall Phillips in McLean. Props to Sensei Mike Allen for the heads up. Invite: <http://bit.ly/dk8KbO>

Rumor killer: Howard Dean NOT backing Crist. Late Wednesday, Scott Peelen, an Orlando Republican closely associated with Governor Crist, said that the former DNC chairman had "promised to write Charlie a check" should he switch political parties. Conservative blogs jumped on the news for obvious reasons. <http://bit.ly/ayKqpT> But it's not true. "Leaking a bogus story is a clear sign that the Crist team is feeling a bit desperate in their new status as an Independent," said Karen Finney, a close associate of Dean's. "This is of course a complete fabrication. Governor Dean strongly supports Kendrick Meek." The whole thing appears to have been a joke that had gone mis-interpreted. Dean, according to a close source, had been in a green room at an event talking to MSNBC's Joe Scarborough, during which he made a joke about writing a check for Crist. Peelen, who wasn't part of the conversation, overheard the conversation but wasn't privy to the humorous undertone, the Dean ally said.

MCCAIN'S ARIZONA SUPPORT PLUMMETS - "John McCain has had a Charlie Crist like drop in his approval numbers over the last six months, seeing double digit declines in his popularity with Democrats, Republicans, and independents alike. As a result a majority of Arizona voters now disapprove of his job performance. 55% of voters disapprove of McCain to just 34% who give him good marks. When PPP polled Arizona in September he was at a positive 48/42 approval spread, so he's dropped 27 points on the margin since that time." <http://bit.ly/9u12Ok>

FIVE STATES COULD LOSE CONGRESSIONAL SEATS OVER CENSUS - AP's Hope Yen: "Five states -- New York, California, Texas, Arizona and Florida -- are perilously close to losing out on congressional seats because of lackluster participation in the U.S. census. The five were average or below average in mailing back 10-question census forms when compared to other states, trailing by as many as 5 percentage points, according to the final census mail-in tally released Wednesday." <http://bit.ly/c21ssV>

ARIZONA BILL AS ECONOMIC ISSUE - Over at the Christian Science Monitor, Sally Kohn condemns Arizona's harsh immigration bill and draws parallels to a similarly strict Oklahoma law that has severely hurt that state's economy: "Oklahoma HB 1804, passed in November 2007, cut off undocumented immigrants from state services and made it a crime for anyone, including citizens, to provide transport or assistance to undocumented immigrants. One study suggests the bill led to an estimated 50,000 people fleeing Oklahoma and a 1.3 percent drop in economic

output statewide. As a result, Oklahoma may well have incurred \$1.8 billion in economic losses, just as it, like the rest of the nation, was bracing for recession." <http://bit.ly/9eWJEQ>

MORE: AFP reports "Arizona's recession-ravaged tourism industry is nervously bracing for more economic woe amid mounting calls to boycott the southwestern border state after its tough new immigration law. Hoteliers across Arizona have begun to report a wave of canceled reservations..." <http://bit.ly/bucrX1>

Arizona Governor Jan Brewer talks with FOX's Greta Van Susteren tonight.

LEADING DRUDGE TEASE - "California lawmaker: Deport children of illegals" ... Links to Duncan Hunter (R-Calif.) saying he'd support exactly that. "It takes more than just walking across the border to become an American citizen. It's what's in our souls." <http://huff.to/cPmcjo>

LAURA BUSH TAKES ON PELOSI, REID - The kindly librarian can also punch back - she responds in her book to Dem leaders calling her husband "an incompetent leader " and a "loser...liar." "The comments were uncalled for and graceless. These particular words revealed the petty and parochial nature of some who serve in Congress," she writes. More here: <http://huff.to/darQK1>

EXCLUSIVE: LINCOLN WORKED WITH NELSON ON DERIVATIVES CARVEOUT FOR WARREN BUFFET - HuffPost Hill asked Blanche Lincoln what she thought of Ben Nelson's effort to make sure existing derivatives contracts were grandfathered in. "We worked with him in the committee to come up with some really tightly narrowly crafted language that we had in there in the bill that came out of committee," she said.

BRET MICHAELS WATCH: HE IS "CONSCIOUS AND TALKING SLOWLY" - Huzzah!
<http://bit.ly/aSwhj9>

CNBC Sees Oil Enemies Around Every Corner – *London Evening Standard* – 4/29/10

Business channel CNBC interviewed veteran US hedge fund boss T Boone Pickens this week about his call for America to use more of its own natural energy resources, rather than having to import oil and gas from OPEC countries or elsewhere. CNBC ran a strapline at the bottom of the TV screen, to explain what Pickens was talking about, which read: “You need to get off the enemies [sic] oil.” Seriously.
