

PickensPlan

T. Boone Pickens Media Coverage 6.24.10

Total of 14 Placements

- Blog/Online: 2
- Broadcast: 12

Coverage Summary:

PolitiFact, a project of the St. Petersburg Times, used information from the Pickens Plan website to fact check statements Democratic candidate for U.S. Senate Jeff Greene made in a debate concerning the amount of money the U.S. is spending on foreign oil.

Highlighted Placements (Full Articles Below)

- **Oil Imports, Energy And Enemies: Part Of It's Right** – *PolitiFact Florida* – 6/22/10

Blog/Online Placements (Full Articles Below)

- **Energy Plans** – *KETK (Tyler, TX)* – 6/23/10

HIGHLIGHTED COVERAGE

Oil Imports, Energy And Enemies: Part Of It's Right – *PolitiFact Florida* – 6/22/10

By Angie Drobnic Holan

While much of Florida's attention has been focused on Republican Marco Rubio and former Republican Charlie Crist in the U.S. Senate race, there's also a vigorous contest on the Democratic side.

Congressman Kendrick Meek of Miami has been challenged by Jeff Greene, a billionaire real estate investor from Palm Beach, and the two faced off in a debate in West Palm Beach on June 22, 2010. Being dutiful fact-checkers, we tuned in to see what was said.

One of the topics was the BP oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico and what it means for national energy policy.

"This situation never should have happened, it's a big failure of the career politicians like Kendrick Meek who have been sitting in Washington and not creating an energy policy," Greene said.

"You know that we only spend \$4 billion, this is what the Congress spends, on research and development for energy when we're sending \$350 billion abroad to enemies, I mean, in some countries, so many of whom are enemies. We need to increase research and development."

Greene's a political newcomer, but he slung the facts like an experienced political player. We decided to check Greene's facts on energy R&D and oil imports. We'll take it step by step.

First, Greene said that Congress spends \$4 billion on research and development for energy. We checked the last budget for the U.S. Department of Energy, for fiscal year 2010, and found that Greene was relatively close. Congress appropriated \$4.9 billion in 2010 for basic science through the Energy Department. The department asked for a little more for next year, at \$5.1 billion.

The economic stimulus, formally known as the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, sent some money -- about \$1.6 billion -- to basic research. But the bulk of the stimulus money went to applied energy projects like weatherizing buildings, cleaning up nuclear sites, and electrical grid improvement.

Next, we wanted to check whether we're spending \$350 billion on foreign oil. This was a little trickier. An independent government agency, the Energy Information Administration, publishes regular information on how much oil we import in barrels. The agency also publishes average prices of crude oil. It does not, however, publish a number on annual spending on foreign oil.

T. Boone Pickens, however, takes those numbers and combines them to calculate how much the U.S. spends on foreign oil on a monthly and annual basis. Pickens is an oil tycoon who advocates for energy independence through his website, The Pickens Plan. Keep in mind these numbers are an approximation based on average price, not actual spending. For the last 12 months, from April 2009 to May 2010, the U.S. spent about \$314 billion on foreign oil, according to the Pickens numbers. The cost of imported oil has been even more in the past, when the price and consumption were higher.

We were more concerned with Greene's statement that we were sending money to countries that are our "enemies." The U.S. doesn't have an "enemies" list, but we have to note the U.S. does not buy imported oil from Iran or North Korea, two countries with whom we have chilly relations. (In fact, oil imports from Iran are banned by the U.S. government.)

The country we imported the most oil from in 2009 was Canada, followed by Mexico, Venezuela, Saudi Arabia, Nigeria, Russia, Algeria, Angola, Iraq, Brazil, Colombia, the Virgin Islands, the United Kingdom, Kuwait, Ecuador, the Netherlands, Norway, Equatorial Guinea, and others. Which of these countries are our "enemies"?

We asked the Greene campaign for a response. Paul Blank, an adviser to the Greene campaign, said that Greene was speaking of individual Islamic extremists in the Middle East, not governments. The money the U.S. sends to the Middle East to buy oil can make its way into the pockets of terrorists indirectly, Blank said.

We understand the point, but we're not going to delve into terror financing here, because it's not what Greene said. In fact, he said twice during the debate that we're sending money to countries that are our enemies. He said at another point, "We're sending \$350 billion a year now to foreign countries to buy oil, many of whom are our enemies. And you know what, that shouldn't be happening."

We're ruling here on Greene's statement that we're spending \$4 billion on research and development for energy while spending \$350 billion on foreign oil, which goes to some countries that are "our enemies." His numbers are close on how much we spend, but he's off about the countries being enemies. Canada and Mexico are friendly with the U.S. We may not always have the best relations with a few of the other countries on the list -- Venezuela comes to mind -- but we have a hard time seeing how any of them rise to the level of "enemy." So we rate his statement Half True.

BLOG/ONLINE COVERAGE

Energy Plans – *KETK (Tyler, TX)* – 6/23/10

By Ashley Aldrich

Washington D.C.--The oil spill disaster is showing us why we should go to cleaner energy sources, or so the President says.

"The tragedy unfolding on our coast is the most painful reminder yet that the time to embrace a clean-energy future is now," says the President from the Oval Office.

He explains that for decades, America has failed to end its addiction to fossil fuels.

But Texas millionaire T. Boone Pickens says nothing has happened in the last two years since the President launched a ten-year plan for exploring new energy sources. According to Associated Press, Pickens thinks the U.S. has enough natural gas reserves to replace "dirty foreign oil."

Oil company employees I spoke with somewhat agree.

Tyler citizen, Duel Glass, is sold out to Pickens' idea, saying we should use our abundance of natural gas because it's the cleanest energy there is.

But it's going to take a lot for Duel to get on Obama's "clean energy plan." He says, "When he [Obama] starts flying his plane using solar power for that, I'll be impressed."

BROADCAST COVERAGE

1. The Situation Room

CNN, National | DMA: 0

06/23/2010, 06:00 PM - 07:00 PM

[EC] 00:13:55 ... The White House says it does not make any sense to keep drilling at the depths without knowing what happened, and that doing so puts people in danger, but not many agree. Many in the offshore industry and local politicians are calling for the ban to be lifted saying it is hurting business and throwing lots of people out of work. The federal judge sided with the companies that filed suit against the government saying that they are suffering irreparable harm as a result of the moratorium. And the senator and governor of Louisiana is asking Obama administration not to appeal the moratorium. ... Landrieu says she wants to find a way forward that would meet the goals of the safety , and **T. BoonePickens** want to shut down all of the rigs is the same as shutting down all aircraft after a single plane crash. If you think that the deepwater offshore drilling should be banned, go to my blog Cafferty file and post a comment. Okay.
00:15:25

Keywords:Cafferty File: deepwater offshore drilling; Ken Salazar; Bobby Jindal; Mary Landrieu; **T. BoonePickens**

Audience: 774,804 **Spot Cost:** \$8,229

2. World Report

CNN International, National | DMA: 0

06/23/2010, 09:00 PM - 10:00 PM

00:17:36 ... The White House says it does not make any sense to keep drilling at the depths without knowing what happened, and that doing so puts people in danger, but not many agree. Many in the offshore industry and local politicians are calling for the ban to be lifted saying it is hurting business and throwing lots of people out of work. The federal judge sided with the companies that filed suit against the government saying that they are suffering irreparable harm as a result of the moratorium. And the senator and governor of Louisiana is asking Obama administration not to appeal the moratorium. ... Landrieu says she wants to find a way forward that would meet the goals of the safety , and **T. BoonePickens** want to shut down all of the rigs is the same as shutting down all aircraft after a single plane crash. If you think that the deepwater

offshore drilling should be banned, go to my blog Cafferty file and post a comment. Okay.
00:19:47

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

3. Ernie And Jay Mid-Day

KRLD-AM (CBS) Freq. 1080, Dallas/Fort Worth | DMA: 5

06/23/2010, 12:00 PM - 01:00 PM

00:06:00 Texas billionaire **TBoonePickens** says he believes the US has enough natural reserves to replace what he calls dirty foreign oil ... **Pickens** spoke at the Sustainable Innovation Summit Dallas that nothing has happened to in the 2 years since President Obama pledged to launch a ten year plan for exploring alternative **energy** sources . 00:07:59

Audience: 11,875 **Spot Cost:** \$81

4. Action 7 News Live This Morning

KOAT-TV (ABC) CH 7, Albuquerque/Santa Fe | DMA: 44

06/23/2010, 06:00 AM - 07:00 AM

[CC] 00:08:51 Texas billionaire, **TBoonePickens**, says Americans are ready for alternative **energy** and that President Obama should commit to a 10 year plan, to reduce our dependance on foreign **oil**. **Pickens** believes the U.S. has as enough **naturalgas** reserves to "replace dirty foreign **oil**." and that **wind** and solar power will be key. The Texas **oilman** said nothing has happened in the two years, since the president pledged to implement the plan00:10:30

Audience: 39,452 **Spot Cost:** \$278

5. KETK56 News Today

KETK-TV (NBC) CH 56, Tyler/Longview | DMA: 109

06/24/2010, 05:00 AM - 06:00 AM

[CC] 00:06:39 The president is using the **oil** spill to show America why we should stop using fossil fuels but one Texan has a differernt plan . **BoonePickens** says nothing has happened in the

two years since the president launched a ten year plan for exploring new energy sources. **Pickens** says he thinks the U.S. has enough natural gas reserves to replace foreign oil...00:08:45

Audience: 2,350 **Spot Cost:** \$20

6. KETK56 News At 10

KETK-TV (NBC) CH 56, Tyler/Longview | DMA: 109

06/23/2010, 10:00 PM - 10:35 PM

[CC] 00:07:22 Meanwhile, the president is using the **oil** spill crisis to show America why we should stop using fossil **fuels**. But, one Texan has a different plan. Ashley Aldrich reports. "The tragedy unfolding on our coast is the most painful reminder yet that the time to embrace a clean-**energy** future is now." In his oval office, the president explains that for decades, America has failed to end its addiction to fossil **fuels**, but Texas millionaire **T. Boone Pickens** says nothing has happened in the two years since the president launched a ten-year plan for exploring new **energy** sources, "My gosh, if we're gonna throw up our hands on everything, just forget it, maybe we should just import **oil** from the enemy. Maybe that's a better solution." Associated Press quotes **Pickens** saying he thinks the U.S. has enough **natural gas** reserves to replace quote "dirty foreign **oil**." **Oil** company employees I spoke with, somewhat agree, **gasoline**, I don't think we could just quit using that **oil**. But **natural gas** could become a larger part of the play like **Pickens** suggested." And this Tyler citizen is completely sold out to **Pickens'** idea, "We have an abundance of **natural gas** in this country, it's the cleanest, greenest **energy** there is, so we need to use it." But it's going to take a lot to get him on Obama's "clean **energy** future" plan, "Obama's misguided, he does not understand the **energy** industry when he starts flying his plane using solar power for that, I'll be impressed."00:10:24

Audience: 10,788 **Spot Cost:** \$165

7. KETK56 News At 6

KETK-TV (NBC) CH 56, Tyler/Longview | DMA: 109

06/23/2010, 06:00 PM - 06:30 PM

[CC] 00:01:37 Meanwhile, the president is using the **oil** spill crisis to show America why we should stop using fossil **fuels**. But, one Texan has a different plan. Ashley Aldrich reports. "The tragedy unfolding on our coast is the most painful reminder yet that the time to embrace a clean-**energy** future is now." In his oval office, the president explains that for decades, America has failed to end its addiction to fossil **fuels**, but Texas millionaire **T. Boone Pickens** says nothing has happened in the two years since the president launched a ten-year plan for exploring new

energy sources, "My gosh, if we're gonna throw up our hands on everything, just forget it, maybe we should just import **oil** from the enemy. Maybe that's a better solution." Associated Press quotes **Pickens** saying he thinks the U.S. has enough **naturalgas** reserves to replace quote "dirty foreign **oil**." **Oil** company employees I spoke with, somewhat agree, **gasoline**, I don't think we could just quit using that **oil**. But **naturalgas** could become a larger part of the play like **Pickens** suggested." And this Tyler citizen is completely sold out to **Pickens'** idea, "We have an abundance of **naturalgas** in this country, it's the cleanest, greenest **energy** there is, so we need to use it." But it's going to take a lot to get him on Obama's "clean **energy** future" plan, "Obama's misguided, he does not understand the **energy** industry when he starts flying his plane using solar power for that, I'll be impressed."00:04:48

Audience: 11,278 **Spot Cost:** \$109

8. KETK56 News Live At 5

KETK-TV (NBC) CH 56, Tyler/Longview | DMA: 109

06/23/2010, 05:00 PM - 05:30 PM

[CC] 00:04:25 Actor Robert Redford is blaming the Gulf **oil** spill not only on B-P, but on former vice president Dick Cheney. He told C-NN's Anderson Cooper, one of the reasons we're in this mess, is because of the way America's "**energy** policy" was designed and who it was designed by --Which is Cheney. Redford says, America must get rid of its current policy and adopt a new one. The president is using the **oil** spill crisis to show America why we should stop using fossil **fuels**. But one Texan has a different plan. Ashley Aldrich joins us in the news update center with more. In his oval office, Obama says that for decades, America has failed to end its addiction to fossil **fuels**, but Texas millionaire **T. BoonePickens** says nothing has happened in the two years since the president launched a ten-year plan for exploring new **energy** sources. And according to the Associated Press, Texas millionaire **T. BoonePickens** says he thinks the U.S. has enough **naturalgas** reserves to replace quote "dirty foreign **oil**....00:06:19

Audience: 11,002 **Spot Cost:** \$120

9. Fox News East Texas

KFXK-TV (FOX) CH 51, Tyler/Longview | DMA: 109

06/23/2010, 09:00 PM - 09:30 PM

[CC] 00:05:33 The president is using the **oil** spill crisis to show America why we should stop using fossil **fuels**. But, one Texan has a different plan. Ashley Aldrich has more on the story. "The tragedy unfolding on our coast is the most painful reminder yet that the time to embrace a

clean-**energy** future is now." in his oval office, the president explains that for decades, America has failed to end its addiction to fossil **fuels**, but Texas millionaire **T. BoonePickens** says nothing has happened in the two years since the president launched a ten-year plan for exploring new **energy** sources, " My gosh, if we're gonna throw up our hands on everything, just forget it, maybe we should just import **oil** from the enemy. Maybe that's a better solution." Associated Press quotes **Pickens** saying he thinks the U.S. has enough **naturalgas** reserves to replace quote "dirty foreign **oil**." **oil** company employees I spoke with, somewhat agree, " **oil** is a necessary part, for **gasoline**, I don't think we could just quit using that **oil**. But **naturalgas** could become a larger part of the play like **Pickens** suggested." and this Tyler citizen is completely sold out to **Pickens'** idea, " We have an abundance of **naturalgas** in this country, it's the cleanest, greenest **energy** there is, so we need to use it."...00:07:59

Audience: 7,330 **Spot Cost:** \$156

10. Good Morning West Texas

KMID-TV (ABC) CH 2, Odessa/Midland | DMA: 155

06/24/2010, 05:30 AM - 06:00 AM

[CC] 00:10:06 And-Many Americans are skeptical when it comes to proposed legislation like cap and replace **oil** with renewable **energy**. But Texas billionaire **T. BoonePickens** is ready to take on the challenge. **Pickens** revealed his new 10-year plan at yesterday's Sustainable Innovation Summit in Dallas. It includes creating new jobs from expanding on the **wind** and solar **energy** industry, and to use the country's **naturalgas** reserves to replace imported **oil** as fuel for transportation --which he says would help the US Save up to \$430 billion dollars a year on **oil** imports.00:11:23

Audience: 557 **Spot Cost:** \$20

11. KMID ABC2 News At 10

KMID-TV (ABC) CH 2, Odessa/Midland | DMA: 155

06/23/2010, 10:00 PM - 10:35 PM

[CC] 00:20:19 Many Americans are skeptical when it comes to proposed legislation like cap and trade that would help replace **oil** with renewable **energy**. But Texas billionaire **T. BoonePickens** is ready to take on the challenge. **Pickens** revealed his new Sustainable Innovation Summit in Dallas. It includes creating new jobs from expanding on the **wind** and solar **energy** industry, and to use the country's **naturalgas** reserves to replace imported **oil** as **fuel** for transportation which he says would help the US save up to \$430 billion dollars a year on **oil** imports.00:21:51

Audience: 5,242 **Spot Cost:** \$71

12. KMID ABC2 News At 5

KMID-TV (ABC) CH 2, Odessa/Midland | DMA: 155

06/23/2010, 05:00 PM - 05:30 PM

[CC] 00:03:31 . Many Americans are skeptical en it comes to proposed legislation like cap and trade that would help replace **oil** with renewable **energy**. But Texas billionaire **T. BoonePickens** is ready to take on the challenge. **Pickens** revealed his new 10-year plan at today's Sustainable Innovation Summit in Dallas. It includes creating new jobs from expanding on the **wind** and solar **energy** industry, and to use the country's **naturalgas** reserves to replace imported **oil** as **fuel** for transportation w hich he says would help the US save up to \$430 billion dollars a year on **oil** imports.00:05:04

Audience: 4,936 **Spot Cost:** \$57

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