



T. Boone Pickens Media Coverage 8.6.11 – 8.8.11

Total of 3 Placements • Print: 2 • Blog/Online: 1

Coverage Summary

Tulsa World has a piece on the growing number of individuals who are making the choice to drive CNG vehicles. Drivers of CNG vehicles cite the cost savings and environmental benefits of CNG compared to gasoline as the motivation for their switch. The piece describes the growing market for natural gas and mentions Chesapeake Energy Corp.'s partnerships to ensure CNG infrastructure is available.

Highlighted Placements (Full Articles Below) • CNG seen as way to save money on gas – Tulsa World –

8/7/11 http://www.tulsaworld.com/business/article.aspx?subjectid=49&articleid=20110807_49_E1_CUTLIN439890&allcom=1

Print Placements (Full Articles Below) • News in brief – The Aspen Times –

8/8/11 <http://www.aspentimes.com/article/20110808/NEWS/110809905/1077&ParentProfile=1058>

Blog/Online Placements (Full Articles Below) • Advanced Energy Advocate T. Boone Pickens to Speak on "The Natural Gas Transition" at AREDAY 2011 – Press Release –

8/5/11 <http://www.altenergymag.com/news/2011/08/05/advanced-energy-advocate-t-boone-pickens-to-speak-on-the-natural-gas-transition-at-areday-2011/21047>

HIGHLIGHTED COVERAGE

CNG seen as way to save money on gas – Tulsa World – 8/7/11

By Rod Walton

Everyone who gives a flying Btu about alternative transportation fuels knows about the push for converting fleets to compressed natural gas. T. Boone Pickens has talked about it for years, while Oklahoma State University, municipalities and some companies are investing in CNG trucks and field cars.

But what about everyone else? In fact, a small but growing market is developing among individuals who make the personal choice to drive CNG vehicles such as the converted Fords, past General Motors models and the Honda Civic GX.

"I've got three of them," west Tulsa resident Andy Kmetz said. "I think it's somewhat of a no-brainer."

Kmetz decided several years ago that CNG was the way to go. His family owns and drives two CNG Hondas and also has a dedicated Ford pickup.

Vehicles powered by CNG take a while to fill up and their range is limited but only slightly, Kmetz said. But they more than make up for that in cost savings. CNG costs between 78 cents and \$1.38 per gallon of gasoline equivalent, while the fuel burns 90 percent less in emissions, its advocates say.

"The fuel is just so clean compared to gasoline," Kmetz said. "My tailpipes at 80,000 miles have absolutely no soot on them."

The idea of CNG vehicles is gaining momentum on the fleet level, encompassing everything from trash and delivery trucks to semi tractors and even buses. Home driveways and garages, however, are still relatively void of cars and trucks using the alternative fuel.

Many budget-conscious families are intrigued by the environmental and domestic empowerment promised by CNG, but they're typically scared off by higher sticker prices for the vehicles and fears of a sparse infrastructure. Oklahoma boasts an abundance of CNG fueling stations compared to some regions but still has only dozens statewide.

Slowly but surely that market void is filling up. Chesapeake Energy Corp., a national leader in natural gas production and advocacy, is steering its employees and others with incentives toward CNG vehicles while also partnering with other businesses to make sure more infrastructure is available.

Tom Sewell, president of Tulsa Gas Technologies, estimates that half of his station's 8,000 gallons

equivalent pumped each month goes toward personal vehicles. His company is at work planning or constructing new stations in Tahlequah and Stilwell this summer.

"We're seeing more of the retail people asking for CNG," Sewell said. "Moms and dads, small fleets."

He is pleased by what Chesapeake is doing to encourage CNG use in Oklahoma City and would love to see some Tulsa-based natural gas company make that push here.

"We're looking for that champion in Tulsa," Sewell said.

One car dealer in Okmulgee County is gaining a nationwide reputation for offering CNG options. Russ Casey runs Morris Auto Sales and sells CNG cars and trucks but only used models. Used is the most popular retail version because new production is infrequent and many consumers are wary of high sticker prices.

"We're the biggest dealer for used CNGs in the country," Casey said. "That's all we sell."

Two-thirds of Casey's sales are to Oklahomans, while the other customers come from all over. He's sold CNG sedans and trucks to people from Seattle, North Carolina and Utah, among other places.

Joe Marina Honda in Tulsa sells the Honda Civic GX model, but the automaker is laying low on production at the moment. Chevrolet Cavaliers and GM trucks and vans were produced in CNG varieties through 2006, while Ford built Crown Victoria and Contour versions until 2004, Casey noted.

That makes his lot in Morris a sort of marketplace contradiction: used and yet next-generation vehicles.

Most of Casey's customers support the idea of buying a car that runs on purely domestic fuel, thus cutting out imports from sometimes hostile nations. Yet, maybe their key motivation is basic finances.

"Most people are interested in the low price of fuel," Casey said. "Even at \$1.38 (gge) it's the cheapest fuel anybody can buy anywhere."

CNG vehicles have a longer life because of the cleaner-burning fuel, Casey said. The 126-octane rating keeps engines running efficiently, and the motor oil is hardly dirty at even 7,000 miles between changes, by the car dealer's account.

"If things do go wrong in the fuel system, you pretty much need to take it to a specialist," he admitted.

"But the money saved on fuel outweighs any added expense."

Andy Kmetz can think of multiple reasons why he is all in for CNG vehicles. He sees it as a 4-to-1 payback over conventional gasoline-powered cars and trucks: environmental, political, economic and for the future.

"I really am concerned about the problems we have in this country," Kmetz said, mentioning a dependence on foreign oil, debt and clean air. "I'm convinced that it's the cleanest car out there from an environmental standpoint."

The federal tax credits for CNG vehicles have expired but could be revived if the pending NatGas Act eventually passes through Congress and the president's desk. Yet Casey pointed out that some used cars are still eligible for Oklahoma one-time tax credits if they have not been taken already.

"My inventory is 95 percent or more out-of-state vehicles," he said.

Questions still persist about CNG's long-term economic and infrastructure viability. Long-distance trips, for instance, are fairly complicated to plan at this point.

Even so, the small but dedicated band of CNG devotees is hanging in there and hoping some bigger players ramp up the economy of scale. But they believe that time is on their side.

"I think it will happen if the government helps them, but I think it will happen no matter what," Kmetz said.

CNG vehicle facts and figures

Tank pressure: 3,600 pounds per square inch

Fuel price: 78 cents to \$1.38 per gallon of gas equivalent (GGE)

GGE equals: 5.7 pounds of CNG

Reduced CO₂: 20 percent to 40 percent less than gasoline vehicles.

Challenges: Home fueling, available stations, repair options.

- Sources: U.S. Department of Energy, CNG users.

PRINT PLACEMENTS

News in brief – The Aspen Times – 8/8/11

Aspen retail sales climb in June

Local retailers and tourism-related companies did brisk business in June, with sales reaching \$37.2 million, an 8 percent increase compared with the same month last year.

Aspen's accommodations sector — hotels and lodges — experienced a 6 percent boost over June 2010's total, according to the city's monthly consumption report. Restaurants and bars saw a 7 percent increase and general retail was up 18 percent, the report shows.

The city hosted two significant events in June that might have contributed to the sales jump: The 2011 Food & Wine Classic in Aspen took place in the middle of the month, and the weeklong Aspen Ideas Festival got under way near the end.

June collections from the city's 2.1 percent sales tax totaled \$713,804 — a 9 percent increase compared with the previous 12 months. For the six-month period from January to June, the sales tax has garnered \$4.9 million, a 4 percent increase over the same period in 2010.

Finance director Don Taylor, in a memorandum to the City Council, noted that Aspen's portion of Pitkin County's sales tax is up 7 percent for the January-to-May period this year, compared with the same five months last year.

Real estate transfer tax (RETT) revenues dedicated to the local affordable-housing program are up 20 percent through July this year, compared with collections in the first seven months of 2010, his memo added.

AREDAY taps Steyer and Pickens for talks

ASPEN — The American Renewable Energy Day Summit, set Aug. 17-21 in Aspen, has landed two high-profile speakers.

AREDAY organizers recently announced that Thomas Steyer, the billionaire philanthropist and

renewable energy proponent, and Texas billionaire businessman and alternative energy advocate T. Boone Pickens will attend the event.

Steyer helped to defeat California Proposition 23 last year, a ballot initiative aimed to suspend the state's 2006 global-warming law, which intends to reduce the state's emissions of greenhouse gases down to 1990 levels by 2020.

During the AREDAY Summit, Steyer will have an evening conversation with Ted Turner on “The Business of Philanthropy” from 8-9 p.m. on Friday, Aug. 19. Steyer also will join Larry Schweiger, president of the National Wildlife Federation, in an armchair conversation titled “Lessons from Prop 23” at 12:30 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 20.

Pickens will be part of an armchair conversation on national security and clean energy that also includes retired Army Gen. Wesley Clark and Vice Adm. Dennis McGinn. The Aspen Institute's Jim Calaway will moderate the talk, set for 1-1:45 p.m. Friday, Aug. 19. Pickens also will participate in the panel, “The Natural Gas Transition,” moderated by Timothy E. Wirth of the UN Foundation. That panel, at 2:15 p.m. Friday, Aug. 19, includes former Colorado Gov. Bill Ritter, as well as Fred Julander of Julander Energy, Tisha Conoly Schuller of the Colorado Oil and Gas Association, and Rich Ward from the Aspen Science Center.

For more details on AREDAY, or to buy tickets, visit www.areday.net.

BLOG/ONLINE COVERAGE

Advanced Energy Advocate T. Boone Pickens to Speak on "The Natural Gas Transition" at AREDAY 2011 – Press Release – 8/5/11

American Renewable Energy Day (AREDAY), an annual forum promoting powerful cross-sector dialogue and collaborations, announces that BP Capital Management founder and principal T. Boone Pickens will again participate at its annual summit, August 17 to 21 at the Hotel Jerome in Aspen, Colo.

ASPEN, Colo., August 5, 2011 – American Renewable Energy Day (AREDAY), an annual forum promoting powerful cross-sector dialogue and collaborations, announces that BP Capital Management founder and principal T. Boone Pickens will again participate at its annual summit, August 17 to 21 at the Hotel Jerome in Aspen, Colo.

Pickens is scheduled to engage on a variety of levels at the eighth annual AREDAY summit, themed "Putting the Green in Green: Monetizing Carbon in the Global Economy." Joining U.S. General Wesley Clark (Ret.) and U.S. Navy Vice Admiral Dennis McGinn (Ret.), he will participate in an armchair conversation entitled "National Security and Clean Energy." The discussion, to be moderated by Aspen Institute lifetime trustees chairman Jim Calaway, will take place on Friday, August 19 from 1:00 to 1:45 pm. Pickens will also sit on the panel discussion entitled "The Natural Gas Transition," to be moderated by United Nations Foundation president Tim Wirth. The panel discussion, which will be held on Friday, August 19 at 2:15 pm, will also include former Colorado Gov. Bill Ritter, Julander Energy president Fred Julander, Colorado Oil and Gas Association president and CEO Tisha Conoly Schuller, and Aspen Science Center geologist Rich Ward.

In addition to his notable history in the oil and gas industry, Pickens is well-known for his 2008 "Pickens Plan," which promotes a radical reduction in U.S. dependency on foreign energy. While the plan calls for an introduction of various alternatives to oil, such as wind and solar energy, its major component is a proposal to convert the nation's commercial transport sector away from OPEC diesel and toward natural gas.

According to AREDAY founder and director Chip Comins, Pickens' contributions were well-received at the 2010 Summit, where he joined Ted Turner, James Cameron and others in addressing the topic "Putting Wealth to Work." He called for "drying up the money going to OPEC," noted that "importing oil is dangerous," and said "we're paying for both sides of the war."

"T. Boone added a dynamic perspective to the 2010 AREDAY conversation," Comins said, "and we anticipate the same candor this year. His national leadership on renewable energy, energy independence and national security, along with his straight talk and no-holds-barred approach to problem solving is needed. We are fortunate that our Summit can bring together such powerful leaders on the climate agenda."

AREDAY co-director Sally Ranney added, "T. Boone's strategic insight and guidance are critically important as our country transitions from fossil fuels. His role in promoting energy independence through natural gas is a vital component of our national security."

Ranney also noted Pickens' expression at the 2010 Summit that the rules and regulations for creating safe, environmentally conscious methods of extracting natural gas are clear. He debunked claims that fracking damages aquifers, stating that "No one wants to destroy the environment," and noting that "Water is 500 feet down and fracking occurs at 10,000 feet – it's a huge difference."

Pickens' 2010 Summit contributions additionally included claim that natural gas is best employed for power generation, especially as 52 percent of today's power is generated from coal. "But be realistic," he said, "You're going to use coal. It won't work to use wind for 100 percent of our needs." Pickens also shared his beliefs that today's air quality challenges can be overcome by using natural gas, which is 30 percent cleaner than gasoline or diesel, and that natural gas will soon be extracted from landfills. According to Pickens' remarks, "It's real and can be done."

Pickens also discussed creating a "blueprint" to help shift attitudes among Americans about energy use. He specifically called for "Convincing the American people it's not a political issue, but it's about America and meeting the needs of generations in the future."

For additional information on AREDAY 2011 sponsorship opportunities and registration deadlines, visit www.areday.net. To learn more about exhibiting at the AREDAY 2011 Expo, log on to www.areday.net/expo.html.

About AREDAY Since 2004, American Renewable Energy Day (AREDAY) has been bringing top leaders and educators together to promote the rapid deployment of renewable energy and energy efficiency strategies via demonstrations, presentations, performances, film screenings and dialogue. Each year, AREDAY has hosted nationally and internationally renowned speakers and attracted attendees from across the globe – resulting in unique, powerful cross-sector collaborations and actions around the climate change issue. For more information, visit www.areday.net.

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