



## **T. Boone Pickens Media Coverage 8.20.11 to 8.22.11**

**Total of 4 Placements** • Print: 3 • Blog/Online: 1

### **Coverage Summary**

The Aspen Times covered a panel featuring Pickens, General Wesley Clark, and Vice Adm. Dennis McGinn that took place at the American Renewable Energy Day (ARE Day) Conference over the weekend. The piece states that all three panelists strongly agree that the United States must eliminate its dependence on foreign oil because of the economic, national security, and environmental consequences. Pickens' commentary is included stating that we need strong leadership and a comprehensive energy policy.

The Tribune Chronicle has an editorial explaining the economic benefits of natural gas as opposed to foreign oil. The author states that it is essential we carry out the Pickens Plan for the sake of the nation.

GenConnect.com has an interview with Pickens in which he states that it is crucial our government exhibit leadership with a comprehensive energy policy. Video of the interview may be found here:<http://www.genconnect.com/giving-back/t-boone-pickens-the-1-reason-why-we-do-not-have-an-energy-plan-video/>

### **Print Placements (Full Articles Below)**

- Aspen AREDAY Panelists: America's reliance on foreign oil must stop – The Aspen Times – 8/20/11  
<http://www.aspentimes.com/article/20110820/NEWS/110819825/1077&ParentProfile=1058>
- Energy for economic growth – Tribune Chronicle (Warren, OH) – 8/19/11 <http://www.tribune->

[chronicle.com/page/content.detail/id/560462/Energy-for-economic-growth.html?nav=5004](http://chronicle.com/page/content.detail/id/560462/Energy-for-economic-growth.html?nav=5004)

- T. Boone Pickens: The 1 Reason Why We Do Not Have an Energy Plan (VIDEO) – GenConnect.com – 8/22/11 <http://www.genconnect.com/giving-back/t-boone-pickens-the-1-reason-why-we-do-not-have-an-energy-plan-video/>

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

- Natural gas industry drilling for people's hearts and minds – Aspen Daily News – 8/20/11 <http://www.aspendailynews.com/section/home/148663>

### **HIGHLIGHTED COVERAGE**

**Aspen AREDAY Panelists: America's reliance on foreign oil must stop** – The Aspen Times – 8/20/11

By Jeanne McGovern

ASPEN — If there is one thing the three panelists at Friday's American Renewal Energy Day luncheon armchair conversation agreed on, it's that the United States must eliminate its dependence on foreign oil.

“My passion is to help America become independent of imports of foreign oil,” said Gen. (Ret) Wesley Clark, who sat with T. Boone Pickens and Vice Adm. Dennis McGinn in a talk moderated by the Aspen Institute's Jim Calaway at the Hotel Jerome ballroom. “In terms of policy, we are writing our own obituary.

“If we don't fix it, we are going down.”

McGinn agreed, succinctly stating: “We have lost our way.”

The military veterans — along with Pickens — also agreed on the gravity of the topic at hand: “Clean Energy is National Security.”

“These two things are inexplicably linked,” said McGinn, drawing the connection between America's dependence on foreign oil and its impact it has on the economy. The U.S. pays billions to foreign

interests while creating jobs overseas rather than at home, and American soldiers die daily defending overseas oil sources or return from service scarred, he said.

“We are paying too high a price — economically and with lives — trying to defend the lifeline to the world economy: foreign oil,” McGinn said.

The panelists — McGinn, representing the American Council on Renewable Energy; Clark, co-chair of Growth Energy; and Pickens, a leader in the field and founder of BP Capital — were then charged with identifying avenues for change.

“How do you see a way out? To make progress?” asked Calaway.

Pickens, who at age 83 was witty and pointed in his remarks, noted that no president or presidential candidate in recent memory has shared a plan for making America energy independent, though all of them promise to do so.

“I cannot even believe that in the last 40 years no one has had plan,” said Pickens. “It is insane. We need a plan.”

McGinn agreed, breaking the issue down into four categories: energy security, economic security, climate security and environmental security.

“These are the challenges that can be turned into opportunities,” he said. “We are not in charge of our energy future right now. We are more dependent than ever. So everything that we do chips away at that reliance, and we are that much more in control and that much more secure.”

Toward that end, the panelists agreed that there is no single solution to the problem. And, in Pickens' words, “everything we can do, we have to do.”

“Every segment has its own story,” added Clark. “But we have to work together.”

But after the hour-long conversation, the bottom line remained: clean energy is national security, which trickles down to every aspect of American life.

“K through 12 education is the biggest failure of our country, and our biggest hope,” concluded moderator Calaway. “It relates to this conversation, because how can we continue to cut the budget for education when we are sending our money and our people to Saudi Arabia. Change must happen.”

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## **Energy for economic growth** – Tribune Chronicle (Warren, OH) – 8/19/11

By JJ Pirko

How about some job-creating sustainable energy projects to revitalize our region and reduce our dependence on foreign oil? After four decades of economic disaster and decline, triggered by the rising cost of energy since the OPEC oil embargo of 1973, we are emerging as a hotbed for developing new sustainable energy industries.

Here on the "Tech-Belt" Ohio-Pennsylvania border, we are turning "garbage gas" and "sewage sludge" into electricity. We are building wind, solar and geothermal energy projects, and training our people to work with this technology. Energy for transportation fuels and public utilities can be produced locally to bring down prices by increasing the supply. An algae biofuel plant is planned where a steel mill once stood. In Columbiana County, Beard is still attempting to convert coal into aircraft and diesel fuel. Another company is preparing to de-polymerize recycled plastic into oil, and the list keeps building.

For almost three years, I have been promoting our region's achievements and potential through the Pickens Plan organization, a network of entrepreneurs, inventors and activists. When I met with T. Boone Pickens in September, he was aware of the sustainable energy progress in our region, including the V&M Star steel mill designed to produce the drilling pipe needed in the Marcellus/Utica shale gas fields.

We already have the technology to convert trucks, buses and cars to run on methane (natural gas) that is a proven, practical alternative for petroleum-based motor vehicle fuels. The trucks serving the Port of Los Angeles and many major metropolitan bus fleets have converted to natural gas, because it reduces air pollution in smog-filled cities.

One of my Pickens Plan associates is quoted: "Using U.S. DoE data (Edition 28 - Transport Energy Book), the energy content of natural gas is 960 BTU/CF LHV while the energy content of diesel is 128,700 BTU/gallon LHV. Therefore one MCF of natural gas works out to 7.46 gallons of diesel." At \$4 per gallon for diesel, that would cost almost \$30, compared to 1 MCF of natural gas costing about \$4 wholesale. The savings are about \$174 every time we do not have to fill a 50-gallon tank with diesel fuel. The capital cost of converting vehicles to natural gas would soon be repaid with fuel-cost savings and reduced engine maintenance costs from this cleaner-burning fuel.

Production and distribution capacity must be built in lock-step with the growth of demand for natural gas vehicle fuel. Start with "closed-loop" transportation systems, like buses and local delivery trucks, which drive their routes and return to a central maintenance and refueling station. The NAT GAS Act (HR 1830) would create tax incentives for businesses to convert their vehicles to natural gas. This bill has been co-sponsored by Tim Ryan, D-Niles, Steve LaTourette, R-Bainbridge, and Jason Altmire, D-4th, but has not made its way onto the floor of Congress. Post office trucks, school buses, mass transit, and city / county / township truck fleets are another good place to start, saving taxpayers from the rising cost of imported oil.

Natural gas is also produced from sewage treatment sludge, agricultural waste and landfills naturally fermenting garbage. The Carbon Limestone Landfill produces enough electricity (13-14 megawatts) from "garbage gas" to power a small city. Struthers has a biodigester designed to power a pair of 375-kilowatt electrical generators.

Sewage treatment plants, old landfills and industrial brownfields are also ideal sites for shale gas horizontal drilling sites, drawing gas from more than a mile from the wellhead. These tend to be secure locations that are already environmentally damaged, and are usually distant from homes, schools, shopping centers and other populated areas. These facilities can serve as community gas and electric suppliers, reducing utility costs and providing non-tax revenue to support municipal governments. Utility costs, especially electricity, are a major factor when attracting companies.

Energy runs our economy, and we are developing it here.

Pirko is a Weathersfield resident. Email him at [editorial@tribtoday.com](mailto:editorial@tribtoday.com).

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### **T. Boone Pickens: The 1 Reason Why We Do Not Have an Energy Plan (VIDEO) –**

GenConnect.com – 8/22/11

By Ginna Kelly

At the 8th Annual AREDAY Summit in Aspen, CO, watch T. Boone Pickens answer "Green Girl Minute" Ginna Kelly's question: Why don't we have an energy plan?

<http://www.genconnect.com/giving-back/t-boone-pickens-the-1-reason-why-we-do-not-have-an-energy-plan-video/>

T. Boone Pickens is one of the most successful and respected environmentally conscious entrepreneurs. Pickens is chairman and CEO of BP Capital, which operates energy focused commodity and equity funds. He is also the largest shareholder in Clean Energy, the largest provider of vehicular natural gas (CNG and LNG) in North America with a broad customer base in the refuse, transit, shuttle, taxi, police, intrastate and interstate trucking, airport and municipal fleet markets.

AREDAY 2011, held in Aspen, CO, from Aug 17-21, features the most powerful players in conservation, sustainability and finance to solve the United States energy crisis in ways that are environmentally and economically sound.

## **PRINT COVERAGE**

**Natural gas industry drilling for people's hearts and minds** – Aspen Daily News – 8/20/11

By Andrew Travers

When it comes to natural gas drilling and hydraulic fracturing, winning public support is more important than anything else, Colorado's top industry representative said Friday at American Renewable Energy Day (AREDay).

"Public perception is a huge, huge challenge that we are engaged in," Tisha Conoly Schuller, CEO of the Colorado Oil and Gas Association (COGA) told a crowd of environmentalists and energy experts at the Hotel Jerome. "On every level, we are learning that public perception matters."

Schuller sat on a panel about natural gas, focused on the many controversies and political battles surrounding it.

The discussion included former U.S. Senator from Colorado Tim Wirth; former Colorado Gov. Bill Ritter; oil magnates T. Boone Pickens and Fred Julander, and Aspen Science Center geologist Rich Ward.

The quintet spoke about natural gas as the key transitional energy source to move the U.S. away from dependence on foreign oil, and toward renewable energy sources like wind and solar.

"One of the key and most important resources available, whether one is thinking about security, climate change, job development, the economic health of the country — one of the solutions clearly is the

enormous amount of natural gas that is available to us in the United States,” said Wirth, who left Congress in 1993 and currently works for the U.N. Foundation. “Why aren’t we taking advantage of that supply and how can we take advantage of that supply?”

Schuller said the biggest remaining challenge is political, and in convincing people that drilling technologies and hydraulic fracturing — known commonly as “fracking” — in their communities is safe.

“You can be a passionate environmentalist and a devoted humanist and like natural gas,” she said, “because I am one of those people.”

She compared the widespread worries about fracking — well-known to residents of the gas-rich Western Slope — to the concerns that climate change is a hoax.

“In the same way that the climate movement has to deal with this unimaginable conflict about people not believing in science, we have to do that in the conversation about hydraulic fracturing,” she said. “And the nature of the conversation is as important as the information ... The public must be willing to hear that it’s safe when it’s demonstrated.”

Julander then did his best to make an attractive natural gas pitch to AREDay’s renewable energy-friendly crowd.

“With natural gas, combined with renewables and efficiency, we win,” he argued. “We get sustainable, reasonably-priced energy throughout the world, we take away the colonialism of the oil industry, we create an economy that prospers throughout the world in an environmentally-friendly fashion and we beat climate change.”

The challenge, he agreed, is to get government leaders to stand with COGA and the oil industry in support of natural gas.

“We don’t need nuclear, we don’t need coal, we don’t need anything else,” he said. “We just need the political power.”

Pickens interjected a story about meeting the Saudi Arabian ambassador to the U.S. in 2008, shortly after Pickens had announced his plan to use wind and natural gas to supplant imported oil for energy generation in America. He said he told the ambassador his goal was to get the U.S. entirely off of Saudi oil.

Friday he told the AREDay crowd that natural gas could do that.

“It’s gonna give the United States an opportunity to sit at the big table for energy,” Pickens said. “For the last 20 years we have had no seat at the big table. When OPEC met, they met and we sat in the hall ... Now you can sit at the table and say, ‘Look, we have a resource that can compete with your oil.’”

That said, Pickens characterized the domestic fight to change the energy consumption and delivery paradigm toward natural gas as “a battle royale.”

Wirth said getting different factions of the energy world to collaborate would prove equally difficult.

“The coalition has to be a natural gas, solar, wind, efficiency, renewable coalition,” he said. “This is going to be a brutal political battle.”

Ritter added that his experience as governor from 2007 to this past January proved both the difficulty and necessity of politicking for natural gas. Ritter said during his time in office he had to balance updating drilling regulations for new technology with promoting clean energy. Hearing local environmental concerns about impacts on ecology and wildlife also is a must, he argued, reminiscent of the ongoing battle over natural gas drilling in the Thompson Divide, located outside of Carbondale.

“You have to be engaged in the politics of this, because there are politics involved in waging the clean energy future and making natural gas a part of it,” he said.

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