



## T. Boone Pickens Media Coverage 11.5.11 – 11.7.11

### Total of 3 Placements

- Print: 2
- Blog/Online: 1

### Print Placements (Full Articles Below)

- **New national cleantech advocacy group takes shape** – *The Boston Globe* – 11/2/11  
[http://www.boston.com/business/technology/innoeco/2011/11/new\\_national\\_cleantech\\_advocac.html](http://www.boston.com/business/technology/innoeco/2011/11/new_national_cleantech_advocac.html)
- **From gasoline guzzler to natural gas burner, Moerdyk Energy helps vehicles go dual fuel** – *The Grand Rapids Press* – 11/7/11 [http://www.mlive.com/business/west-michigan/index.ssf/2011/11/from\\_gasoline\\_guzzler\\_to\\_natur.html](http://www.mlive.com/business/west-michigan/index.ssf/2011/11/from_gasoline_guzzler_to_natur.html)

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

- **Green Energy: Damn the Facts, Full Speed Ahead!** – *AmericanThinker.com Blog* – 11/6/11  
[http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/11/green\\_energy\\_damn\\_the\\_facts\\_full\\_speed\\_ahead.html](http://www.americanthinker.com/2011/11/green_energy_damn_the_facts_full_speed_ahead.html)

## PRINT COVERAGE

**New national cleantech advocacy group takes shape** – *The Boston Globe* – 11/2/11

Posted by Scott Kirsner

Hemant Taneja, the venture capitalist who helped create the New England Clean Energy Council in 2007, is involved with a new trade group that makes its debut this week: the Advanced Energy Economy. The Washington- and Palo Alto- based organization hopes to knit together state and regional associations, and serve as a new national voice for the cleantech industry. It will subsume the

operations of the Clean Economy Network, a Washington-based organization with six employees that sought to promote energy-related innovation.

“We want to build a business voice for the industry beyond Al Gore and T. Boone Pickens,” Taneja says. “The three principles of the group are to have a full and fair accounting of the costs of the energy we use; open markets; and to embrace long-term thinking.” The Advanced Energy Economy will seek to collaborate with already-established groups like the New England Clean Energy Council, the Illinois-based Clean Energy Trust, and the Colorado Cleantech Industry Association.

Backing the new group are hedge fund manager Thomas Steyer of Farallon Capital Management, several foundations, and General Catalyst, the Cambridge-based firm that employs Taneja. The group doesn’t yet have an executive director, but its board includes George Shultz, former secretary of Labor, Treasury and State; former Colorado governor Bill Ritter; Duke Energy chief executive James E. Rogers; and First Solar chairman Mike Ahearn. (Update: an AAE spokesperson tells me that Rogers and Ahearn are not yet officially on the board.)

From today's press release announcing the launch of Advanced Energy Economy:

Advanced energy includes all solutions that move us toward the goal of energy that is affordable, abundant, and secure. Rather than favoring specific technologies, advanced energy is inclusive in nature and judged by the benefits it provides in the field and in the marketplace. Electric and plug-in hybrid cars, lightweight composites for airplane bodies, natural gas-fueled trucks, high-performance buildings, more efficient industrial processes, and the latest wind, solar, and nuclear technologies – these all represent advanced energy in that they produce energy savings, use resources more productively, reduce dependence on foreign oil and reduce health and environmental costs.

“It’s time to look at energy innovation as a necessity for America, not an option,” said Tom Steyer, one of the founders of AEE and founder and co-managing partner of Farallon Capital Management. “As global energy demand continues to grow America has the opportunity to lead the world toward new ways to generate, use, and conserve this vital resource. If we do, it will advance our economy, improve our health and increase our national security. Not to do so would be a tragedy.”

**From gasoline guzzler to natural gas burner, Moerdyk Energy helps vehicles go dual fuel - *The Grand Rapids Press* – 11/7/11**

By Chris Knape

GRAND RAPIDS — A Lincoln Navigator and Cadillac Escalade recently underwent a makeover that made the big, gas-guzzling SUVs potential models of cutting dependence on foreign oil.

Last week, a technician from Italy trained mechanics at Grand Rapids Mason Street Garage, 1302 Mason St. NE, to add a system that allows the vehicles to run on either gasoline or compressed natural gas with a flip of a dashboard-mounted switch.

The training and conversions were done on behalf of Moerdyk Energy, a newly formed Grand Rapids company that is marketing the conversion systems to fleets and individual customers around the region.

Jimmy Moerdyk, vice president of Moerdyk Energy, said the \$4,000 to \$6,000 operation makes the most sense for fleet vehicles and people who simply want to use a more domestic source of energy than gasoline.

“It’s cleaner and domestic and more environmentally sound,” Moerdyk said.

It’s also potentially less expensive to fuel up, although that comes with a few caveats.

At current prices, natural gas runs the equivalent of \$1.95 a gallon. Moerdyk said he expects the Escalade and Navigator, his car and his father’s car, to get about 15 mpg on natural gas — slightly better than they had been getting on gas.

“If you put a lot of miles on, it will pay for itself,” he said.

But the caveats are substantial. Grand Rapids has only one public CNG station — a Pacific Pride station geared toward fleets. Another is in Muskegon.

Home stations are available, but filling up using one takes hours and installing one of the home stations can cost thousands of additional dollars.

It’s the classic chicken-or-the-egg scenario, Moerdyk said.

Over the long term, Moerdyk said he hopes to develop a network of CNG fueling stations. But first he needs to show people the technology is viable and ready to go today.

The United States already has a sizable fleet of mostly commercial fleet vehicles powered by natural gas.

According to advocacy group Natural Gas Vehicles for America, there are 112,000 natural gas vehicles already on the road in the United States and 13 million that use natural gas around the world. Pakistan and Iran each have more than 2 million natural gas cars on their roads, the group says.

Burning natural gas also results in fewer toxic emissions and generates 20 percent to 30 percent less greenhouse gas emissions.

Awareness of the viability of natural gas fleet conversions has gained momentum in recent years as natural gas companies and entrepreneur T. Boone Pickens have advertised their support for CNG as an alternative vehicle fuel.

For people considering a conversion, cost isn't the only consideration. There's also the issue of space.

Rick Miller, co-owner of Mason Street Garage, noted that the CNG tanks used in the Navigator and Escalade took a significant chunk of space in the vehicles' trucks.

While smaller and more tightly configured tanks are available, converting will usually result in some loss of cargo room.

But Miller said he was impressed after testing the Escalade how little difference there was when operating the vehicle in CNG mode instead of using gasoline.

"There's nothing that would indicate to anybody driving one of those vehicles that it was operating on anything else," he said.

And, in the end, the conversion business could be a good thing for his 60-year-old business if Moerdyk can muster the customers. Each conversion takes 12 to 15 hours of work by a qualified mechanic.

"I'm optimistic," Miller said. "If they get a fleet of 50 cars, then we're going to be busting our butts — period. If I have to expand a little bit, that's what I'll do."

For more information on the systems, visit [moerdykenergy.com](http://moerdykenergy.com).

## PRINT COVERAGE

**Green Energy: Damn the Facts, Full Speed Ahead!** – *AmericanThinker.com Blog* – 11/6/11

By Neil Snyder

In 2008, a group of more than 31,000 scientists signed a petition dissenting from the position of the United Nations' Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) that man-made CO2 emissions are destroying our planet. More than 9,000 of them have Ph.D. degrees in fields like atmospheric science, climatology, earth science, and environmental science. That's fifteen times more Ph.D. scientists than are involved in the IPCC campaign.

One of the group's leaders, the late Professor Frederick Seitz, said:

The United States is very close to adopting an international agreement that would ration the use of energy and of technologies that depend upon coal, oil, and natural gas and some other organic compounds. ... This treaty is, in our opinion, based upon flawed ideas. Research data on climate change do not show that human use of hydrocarbons is harmful. To the contrary, there is good evidence that increased atmospheric carbon dioxide is environmentally helpful.

Seitz was a first-rate scientist who served as president of Rockefeller University and president of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences. Seitz was also a recipient of the National Medal of Science. The agreement to which he referred is the Kyoto Protocol.

Ivar Giaever, a Nobel Prize-winning physicist, resigned from the American Physical Society because of its position on global warming. So did University of California professor Hal Lewis. When Lewis resigned, he said that the global warming movement was a "scam" and a "pseudoscientific fraud."

Even so, our government is imposing strict controls to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in hopes of staving off global warming even though earth's atmosphere is cooling. Meanwhile, the cost to you and me is higher energy prices, higher inflation, a lower standard of living, and fewer new jobs, since every product we buy has an energy cost component. Under orders from the president, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is moving ahead aggressively with regulations to reduce CO2 emissions. President Obama's misguided effort to stay the course by fiat or by executive order is very expensive, and it's a price that we can ill afford to pay -- especially now, as our economy is struggling to recover from the Great Recession.

Global warming alarmists have resorted to fixing data, hiding data, and other things to keep people from learning the truth. They are motivated by blind faith in a theory that isn't supported by the facts. It's a perfect example of anti-science at work in the scientific community. To deny that our climate is cooling, you have to ignore a mountain of hard data, and the facts are mounting year by year. For example, it was comical to watch the participants at the December 2010 U.N. Global Warming Summit in Cancún, Mexico dress for winter as temperatures plunged to a 100-year record low. That kind of thing is happening all over the world, and it's not anecdotal data. It's a global trend that only die-hard global warming alarmists refuse to accept.

Did you know that the number of global weather tracking stations has been reduced, and disproportionately, the eliminated stations are in colder regions? Global warming alarmists have continued to report data showing global temperatures rising despite the fact that colder locations have been taken out of the data set, and they haven't bothered to divulge that fact. If you take cold readings out of the data set, average temperatures rise, but it has absolutely nothing to do with the climate. Similarly, if you included the temperature inside my oven in the data set, average temperatures would rise...but it would be an act of fraud.

The climate is cooling, and it's been cooling since 1998. Eventually, the truth will prevail, but in the meantime, President Obama continues to retard progress at great cost to the American people. The only people profiting from global warming hysteria are global warming alarmists who are selling a pig in a poke. President Obama is firmly in their camp. In fact, he is their champion.

The United States has been blessed with enough resources to meet our energy needs and to export our surpluses, but we have not developed them the way we should. Instead, we have been cowed by liberal progressives who would rather see our economy go down the tubes than develop what they consider "dirty energy."

In 2008, the U.S. imported almost 13,000,000 barrels of oil per day, or about 57% of our total oil consumption. Although our energy needs have been increasing rapidly, the U.S. didn't build a new refinery between 1998 and 2008, even then over the strong objections of liberal progressives. In 2008 alone, the U.S. spent almost \$500,000,000,000 on imported oil. That's half a trillion dollars that we didn't need to spend. Our dependence on foreign oil is putting our economy (not to mention our national security) at risk.

Saying that the U.S. is rich in energy resources is an understatement. At today's consumption levels, we have enough coal to meet our needs for the next 500 years. We have 22,450,000,000 barrels of proven

oil reserves, and we are finding new oil reserves all the time. The U.S. has 250 trillion cubic feet of proven natural gas reserves. We are finding new gas reserves daily, and we are discovering new ways to tap into hard-to-get gas deposits. Putting that in perspective, the U.S. has more energy in natural gas than the entire Middle East has in oil. It's disgraceful that we're putting our economic and national security at risk to import strategic resources that we have in abundance.

T. Boone Pickens, one of the world's leading oil and gas men and an energy investor, has launched a campaign to reduce our dependence on foreign oil by developing our natural gas reserves. His plan is called the Pickens Plan. Pickens deserves our support, but we need to do more. We must develop our coal, oil, and natural gas reserves. We also need to develop wind energy, solar energy, and hydrogen energy. There is absolutely no excuse for the United States to import oil and gas from another nation.

We have already spent more than \$2,000,000,000,000 on a vast array of stimulus programs since President Obama took office. That's several times more than will be needed to fully develop all of our energy resources. We have squandered our wealth to reward individuals and groups that supported candidate Obama in 2008 while our critical economic and security needs have gotten scant attention.

Green energy alternatives may satisfy our energy needs one day, but this much is certain: today, green energy is little more than a way for President Obama to dole out federal dollars to his favorite firms at the expense of coal, oil, and natural gas producers. The science and technology do not exist in green energy areas to meet even a smidgen of our energy needs. That's what the facts tell us, and ignoring the facts is costing us jobs and tax revenue.

Neil Snyder is a chaired professor emeritus at the University of Virginia. His blog, SnyderTalk, is posted daily. His latest book is titled *If You Voted for Obama in 2008 to Prove You're Not a Racist, You Need to Vote for Someone Else in 2012 to Prove You're Not an Idiot*.

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