



T. Boone Pickens Media Coverage 11.23.11 – 11.28.11

Total of 2 Placements

- Blog/Online: 2

Coverage Summary

Today, Pickens appeared on Boston talk radio station WRKO's "Lunch Money" program to discuss the potential for natural gas to reduce America's dependence on OPEC oil. The interview may be heard via the following link:

<http://audio.wrko.com/a/49054538/t-boone-pickens-discusses-his-energy-plan.htm>

Blog/Online Placements (Full Articles Below)

- **Legislation introduced** – *Lexology.com (Association of Corporate Counsel)* – 11/21/11

<http://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=70fb819e-534a-423c-995a-f9234f1f859b>

- **How Abundant Natural Gas Spells Trouble for Renewables** – *StateImpact.com* – 11/28/11

<http://stateimpact.npr.org/texas/2011/11/28/abundant-natural-gas-spells-trouble-for-renewables/>

BLOG/ONLINE COVERAGE

- **Legislation introduced** – *Lexology.com (Association of Corporate Counsel)* – 11/21/11

Congressman Doc Hastings (R-WA) introduced legislation (H.R. 3404) November 14 to establish in the Department of Interior an Under Secretary of Energy, Lands, and Minerals, and a Bureau of Ocean Energy, an Ocean Energy Safety Service, and an Office of Natural Resources Revenue.

Representative Doug Lamborn (R-CO) introduced the PIONEERS Act (H.R. 3408) the same day. The

Protecting Investment in Oil Shale the Next Generation of Environmental, Energy, and Resource Security Act would direct the Secretary of Interior to issue additional commercial leases and Research, Development, and Demonstration leases and make oil shale regulations permanent, allowing the production of 1.5 trillion barrels of U.S. oil shale.

Congressman Steve Stivers (R-OH) introduced legislation (H.R. 3410) to require the administration to lease offshore areas estimated to contain the most oil and natural gas resources. Speaker of the House John Boehner (R-OH) plans to include the legislation in his American Energy and Infrastructure Jobs Act (H.R. 7) soon.

Senator Bob Menendez (D-NJ) introduced legislation (S. 1863) November 15 to promote natural gas vehicles. The New Alternative Transportation to Give Americans Solutions Act of 2011 would boost domestic production of vehicles that run on natural gas, extending tax credits for natural gas vehicles and building refueling infrastructure, and would be paid for by a temporary user fee on natural gas used as a vehicle fuel.

Representative Rush Holt (D-NJ) introduced legislation (H.R. 3424) to establish a program under which the Environmental Protection Agency Administrator shall provide grants to eligible state consortia to establish and carry out municipal sustainability certification programs.

Congressman Jim Sensenbrenner (R-WI) introduced legislation (H.R. 3431) to amend the Clean Air Act to require that the Environmental Protection Agency certify that all new fuels will not only lead to emissions decreases, but also not reduce fuel efficiency or damage engines.

Senators Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI) and Max Baucus (D-MT) introduced climate change adaptation legislation (S. 1881) November 16. The Safeguarding America's Future and Environment Act would require federal natural resource agencies to plan for their projected long-term effects of climate change, and encourage states to prepare natural resources adaptation plans; it would also create a science advisory board to ensure that the planning uses the best available science.

Representatives Ed Markey (D-MA) and Rush Holt (D-NJ) were joined by several of their House Natural Resource Committee colleagues in introducing the Fair Payment for Energy and Mineral Production on Public Lands Act (H.R. 3446). The bill also would recover \$19 billion from oil, gas, and mining companies for deficit reduction or transportation infrastructure spending by ensuring that they are paying a fair price to use public resources. The bill would require payments for unused leases and fees to cover the cost of mandatory government inspections.

Congressman Chuck Fleischmann (R-TN) introduced the Stop Green Initiative Abuse Act of 2011 (H.R. 3441). The legislation would eliminate the Department of Energy's Weatherization Assistance Program, saving \$2.1 billion over the next ten years.

Representative Don Young (D-AK) introduced the Fine Act of 2011 (H.R. 3450). The legislation would require the Environmental Protection Agency to use the money it collects from fines on government entities or private industry for community grant programs to aid communities in funding projects to comply with EPA regulations. The legislation would also prohibit any agency funds from being used to fund programs or activities outside the country.

Senator Tom Udall (D-NM) introduced Buy American legislation November 17 with the support of Senators Chuck Schumer (D-NY) and Bernie Sanders (I-VT). On a related note, Senator Schumer is soon to add an amendment to the Defense Authorization Act on Buy American for solar photovoltaics.

How Abundant Natural Gas Spells Trouble for Renewables – *StateImpact.com* – 11/28/11

By Mose Buchele

A few years ago, when US natural gas production was kicking into high gear, gas promoters like T. Boone Pickens sold it as something close to a panacea. It was a plentiful source of energy that could create jobs at home. It could wean the US off of foreign oil. Perhaps most importantly, it was a "bridge fuel" — it could serve as a cleaner source of electricity while America's renewable energy industry came into its own.

It's hard to conceive just how fast the industry has grown since then. In 2010, the US surpassed Russia as the world leader in gas production on the strength of domestic shale reserves. Estimates show production more than doubling by 2020 to over 40 billion cubic feet of gas produced per day. This success can be viewed as a vindication of early gas investors. But abundant and cheap natural gas has also brought its own set of challenges.

"Natural gas is absolutely a victim of our own success," Adam Haynes, director of Corporate Development for Chesapeake Energy, told StateImpact Texas. He says natural gas has become so prevalent that fewer people are putting their money into it. "Right now, because the price of natural gas is so low, producers are chasing the oil and natural gas liquids window," Haynes said.

In places like the Eagle Ford shale formation in South Texas he says Chesapeake uses the same hydraulic fracturing (“fracking”) techniques that extract gas to extract oil and liquid gas. That’s a best-case scenario for companies, though no comfort to environmentalists concerned with the impact of fracking.

The worst-case scenario from a business perspective is if a driller is holding a lease on land to drill gas that it no longer wants. “In [gas companies’] lease obligations, they have drilling obligations, and they have, if they find something, production obligations,” said Chip Groat, director of UT’s Austin’s Center for International Energy and Environmental Policy.

“So they really have to keep up a certain amount of drilling to hold the leases. And they aren’t quite willing to give them up yet. So it’s a really interesting position for companies to be in, where they don’t really need more gas, but they don’t really want to let go what they’ve already paid for,” Groat said.

But the real challenges in a world of cheap and plentiful natural gas are found outside the fossil fuel industry. Since it’s such an inexpensive energy source now, Groat wonders if gas has gone from being a bridge to renewables and become a barrier instead.

It’s a suspicion backed up by some of renewable energy’s greatest proponents.

“The low price of natural gas has an automatic negative impact on the development of renewable energy sources. And people in leadership positions know that,” said Russel Smith, the Executive Director of the Texas Renewable Energy Industries Association.

Smith says the state of Texas may want to look into regulating how much gas can be drilled in order to control prices. Other proposals include boosting exports and finding new markets for gas domestically.

In support of that last idea the so-called “Nat Gas Act” — a bill to give incentives to trucking businesses that use natural gas powered vehicles — was introduced in the US Senate this month.

While the fate of that is yet to be determined, one thing’s for sure, according to Chesapeake Energy’s Adam Haynes. There’s plenty of gas to meet future needs.

Follow us on [Facebook](#)! Or Twitter @pickensplan