



T. Boone Pickens Media Coverage 8.7.09

Total of 11 Placements

- Print: 3
- Blog/Online: 6
- Broadcast: 2

Coverage Summary:

A *Bloomberg* article looks at the stress renewable energy will put on the nation's electrical grid if additional transmission lines are not built. One of the challenges is persuading utilities and developers to expand transmission fast enough to support Obama's renewable energy plans, which include using 25 percent renewables by 2025. Pickens is mentioned in the piece as a leader in the push to allow federal authority to choose locations for new lines. The article says that Pickens met with Obama in Reno last August and told him this is similar to what Eisenhower did in 1956 with the national highway. Pickens is quoted from his July 7th meeting with *Bloomberg* reporters. Pickens' wind farm is also mentioned in the piece.

Domestic Fuel reported on the Propane Education & Research Council's new campaign to promote the ways propane can help cut greenhouse gas emissions, improve air quality, lower energy costs and reduce America's dependence on foreign oil. Pickens is mentioned in the piece as a supporter of propane.

A host for *KTKK-AM* in Salt Lake City summed up an interview he heard with Pickens this week discussing the abundance of natural gas and its extensive use throughout Europe as a transportation fuel. The host called Pickens one of the most dominant and knowledgeable energy people in the world.

Highlighted Placements (Full Articles Below)

- **Wind Promises Blackouts as Obama Strains Grid With Renewables** – *Bloomberg* – 8/7/09
- **PERC Launches National Consumer Propane Campaign** – *Domestic Fuel* – 8/6/09

Print Placements (Full Articles Below)

- **Summit to Address Workforce's Role in Clean Energy Shift** – *Las Vegas Sun* – 8/7/09
- **Give Wind Energy Study Group a Chance** – *Holland Sentinel* – 8/6/09

Blog/Online Placements (Full Articles Below)

- **Schwarzenegger Joins Vegas Energy Summit** – *KVVU* – 8/6/09
- **National Clean Energy Summit 2.0 to be Streamed Live** – *Domestic Fuel* – 8/6/09
- **Can We Run 18-Wheelers on Batteries?** – *BNET* – 8/6/09
- **Forget Wind Turbines, Or Solar Panels, We Need To Fund New Power Lines** – *Business Insider* – 8/7/09
- **Economic Benefits Of Renewables The Focus Of Clean Energy Summit** – *Power Online* – 8/7/09

HIGHLIGHTED COVERAGE

Wind Promises Blackouts as Obama Strains Grid With Renewables – *Bloomberg* – 8/7/09

By Christopher Martin and Mario Parker

Aug. 7 (Bloomberg) -- President Barack Obama's push for wind and solar energy to wean the U.S. from foreign oil carries a hidden cost: overburdening the nation's electrical grid and increasing the threat of blackouts.

The funding Obama devoted to get high-voltage lines ready for handling the additional load of alternative supplies is less than 5 percent of the \$130 billion that power users, producers and the U.S. Energy Department say is needed.

Without more investment, cities can't tap much of the renewable energy from remote areas, said Jon Wellinghoff, chairman of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. He serves as the administration's top official on grid issues and recognizes the dilemma it faces.

"As we add more and more wind power, the grid will get more stressed, and there's going to be a point where the grid can't handle any more," Wellinghoff said at an energy conference in Chicago. "The first thing we need is to build out transmission."

The country's electricity network sprawls over 211,000 miles (340,000 kilometers) of high-voltage power lines, a patchwork connecting substations and transformers owned by utilities and federal agencies.

Obama's \$787 billion stimulus plan to end the deepest U.S. recession since the 1940s dedicates \$6 billion in the next two years to expand the country's transmission system for renewable energy. By contrast, China is spending 23 percent of its 4 trillion yuan (\$585 billion) in stimulus to make its grid ready for alternative sources, using advanced electrical technologies from Zurich-based ABB Ltd. and American Superconductor Corp.

Grid Gets Less

"China's our fastest-growing market," said Jason Fredette, investor relations manager at Devens, Massachusetts-based American Superconductor, which has outperformed the Standard & Poor's 500 Index by 93 percentage points this year. "We're not counting on U.S. stimulus money."

The Energy Department's latest round of loan guarantees, announced July 29, underscored the government's emphasis on alternative energy over the transmission system itself. The department said it will provide as much as \$30 billion for renewable projects, compared with \$750 million to increase the reliability of the nation's power network.

The administration is counting on private utilities and transmission developers to complement its investment, according to Wellinghoff. Yet a full refit of the U.S. grid would cost \$13 billion annually over 10 years, compared with the \$5 billion a year averaged over the last decade, said Rich Lordan of the Electric Power Research Institute, an industry-funded energy research organization in Palo Alto, California.

Consumer Backlash

The amount utilities will spend is limited by how much consumers are willing to pay for transmission work and alternative energy, said Keith Martin, a lawyer at New York-based Chadbourne & Parke LLP who represents developers of renewable projects. A new solar-power facility costs three times as much as a coal-fired plant of the same size, the Energy Department estimates.

"Five years from now, we could experience ratepayer backlash," Martin said.

Encouraging alternative sources without preparing the grid heightens the risk of shortages, said Will Gabrielski, an analyst with Broadpoint AmTech Inc. in San Francisco. He ranked first in a Bloomberg analyst survey based on the 12-month accuracy of his calls on Houston-based Quanta Services Inc., the largest U.S. builder of power lines.

Texas Misstep

The consequences of failing to improve the grid played out last year in Texas, the biggest U.S. generator of wind power with 7,907 megawatts, enough to supply about 6.3 million homes. When winds died in February 2008, utilities had to cut power to factories and offices as output dropped 82 percent.

Texas's transmission network is mostly independent of the nation's. Without added power lines, operators were unable to draw enough replacement electricity to keep businesses supplied.

"The rule of thumb is by 2011 we need to see significant upgrades" to avoid such shortages caused by the intermittent, unreliable nature of renewable-energy sources, Gabrielski said.

The outdated network led to the nation's worst blackout six years ago this month. It cut power to 50 million people in eight states and the Canadian province of Ontario, causing about \$10 billion in damages.

Obama targets 25 percent renewables by 2025, more than five times the current amount, excluding hydroelectric, the Energy Department says. That would add about 272,000 megawatts to the grid's capacity of 830,000, further straining a transmission system largely built more than five decades ago.

Oil-Import Decline

As drivers shift to hybrid and electric cars, oil imports will decline from 58 percent of supplies to 40 percent by 2025, according to Energy Department data.

Alternatives such as wind demand more power lines and substations than coal-fired plants, which provide a steady stream of electricity. If the wind is blowing hardest in North Dakota, yet needed in Chicago, lines must transport the power. That's not an issue with nuclear and coal plants, which tend to be built closer to where the electricity is used.

"We need a national policy commitment to develop the transmission infrastructure necessary to bring renewable energy from remote areas, where it is produced most efficiently, into our large metropolitan areas, where most of the power is consumed," Wellinghoff said at a July 20 conference in Seattle.

Disrupting Service

Regulators don't know when additional wind and solar power would disrupt service. FERC has commissioned a study to answer that question by the first quarter of 2010, Wellinghoff said in a July 31 Bloomberg Television interview.

He was first named to the commission by President George W. Bush in 2006. Wellinghoff, 60, an energy-law specialist, previously represented federal agencies, renewable developers and clean-energy advocates. Obama designated him chairman of the commission in March.

His challenge is persuading utilities and developers to expand transmission fast enough to support Obama's renewable-energy plans without inciting fears that it could cause shortages, said Katie Renshaw, a lawyer with Earthjustice, an environmental group based in Washington.

"It's not an easy task," said Renshaw, whose group filed a complaint in a San Francisco federal court on July 7 accusing U.S. agencies of planning 6,000 miles of rights-of-way for new power lines and pipelines, yet leaving areas with renewable energy resources "stranded or underserved."

"We're concerned the Obama administration isn't moving fast enough," Renshaw said in an interview.

'Hard Work' Ahead

The North American Electric Reliability Corp., a nonprofit group based in Princeton, New Jersey that oversees power systems serving 334 million people, said in an April report that grid monitoring must be improved to add wind and solar power without harming reliability.

"It's absolutely a concern, but not something that we think is impossible," said Kelly Ziegler, a NERC spokeswoman. "It will require a lot of hard work."

One obstacle is the lack of federal authority to choose locations for new lines. Investor T. Boone Pickens, who met with Obama in Reno, Nevada, last August, is helping lead the push to address that.

"I told Obama that it has to be like Eisenhower did in 1956 with the national highway," Pickens said in a July 7 interview, referring to President Dwight Eisenhower's expansion of the interstate highway system for economic development and national security. "You could solve this within 10 years. All we need is federal siting authority."

Pickens's Wind Farm

The lack of lines forced Pickens to shelve a \$10 billion Texas wind farm last month. He is searching for a place with transmission capacity for the 667 turbines his Mesa Power LLP ordered from General Electric Co.

Upgrades face opposition from state officials who want to retain control. Southern California Edison, based in Rosemead, canceled a plan to import solar power from Arizona in May after state regulators there criticized the project as a "230-mile extension cord" that wouldn't benefit their residents.

On June 17, the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee voted 15-8 for a bill that would give FERC the ability to overrule state objections to the siting of interstate power lines. The panel's chairman, Democratic Senator Jeff Bingaman of New Mexico, sponsored the legislation.

Without addressing such issues, only so much solar, wind and other new-energy sources can be loaded onto the grid, said Tucker Twitmyer, who helps manage \$380 million in energy technology funds for EnerTech Capital in Wayne, Pennsylvania.

"Reliability remains the top priority for utilities," Twitmyer said. "That's a natural boundary in terms of what can be done with renewables."

To contact the reporters on this story: Christopher Martin in New York at cmartin11@bloomberg.net; Mario Parker in Chicago at mparker22@bloomberg.net.

PERC Launches National Consumer Propane Campaign – *Domestic Fuel* – 8/6/09

By Joanna Schroeder

The Propane Education & Research Council (PERC) launched a new campaign today to promote the ways propane can help cut greenhouse gas emissions, improve air quality, lower energy costs, and reduce America's dependence on foreign oil. In fact, greenhouse gas emissions can be cut immediately, says PERC by using more propane and expanding its uses.

Roy Willis, president and CEO of PERC said, "Significant and swift progress toward environmental goals is within reach. The key is to more fully embrace the clean alternative energies, like wind, solar, natural gas, ethanol, and propane, that are already used across the country."

Propane which is most commonly used for home and water heating in rural areas, is a low-carbon alternative fuel that emits significantly lower amounts of greenhouse gases and smog-producing

hydrocarbons than conventional fuels emit. PERC says that its environment-friendly profile also makes it extremely appealing to people looking for clean energy options for transportation, commercial and agricultural uses. And according to the organization, propane also boasts the most robust nationwide infrastructure of any alternative fuel, meaning it is immediately ready for expansion beyond rural households.

Major supporters of propane include T. Boone Pickens who highlighted propane as an important part of the Pickens Plan, citing propane's environmentally friendly profile and ample production in the United States. In partnership with Pickens, PERC will be rolling out a national advertising and public relations campaign that will extend through the end of 2009.

I will be spending a week driving an F-150 that has been converted to run on propane by Roush Manufacturing. You will be able to follow my trip via my video journal beginning August 16th on www.Gas2.org as well as here on DomesticFuel.

PRINT COVERAGE

Summit to Address Workforce's Role in Clean Energy Shift – Las Vegas Sun – 8/7/09

By Nicole Lucht

Jobs and the economy will take center stage during the National Clean Energy Summit 2.0 on Aug. 10 at UNLV's Cox Pavilion.

The summit comes when Las Vegas' jobless rate hit 12.3 percent in June. That figure doesn't include people who have given up looking for work or who are working part time but would prefer full time.

Nationwide the unemployment rate hit 9.5 in June.

Perhaps Labor Secretary Hilda Solis, a recent addition to the summit, can speak to the workforce's role in renewable energy.

Part of the national development of renewable energy lies with Congress, which will be considering legislation to promote and fund projects after its August recess.

There will be a lot on the summit's table, including a round-table discussion about building on a clean energy economy, including clean energy investment and promoting renewable energy and infrastructure.

"This is an exciting time in the history of America," Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid said during a teleconference on the summit.

But "Nevada has to compete with other states and create incentives to draw (renewable energy companies) to Nevada," he added later.

"There are a lot of states where the sun shines all the time ... Nevada needs to be aggressive," he said.

Former Vice President Al Gore, also during the teleconference, said Tennessee Gov. Phil Bredesen has been aggressive in taking part in the "solar wave."

During the afternoon's clean-energy policy town hall, participants will have the chance to ask questions of Reid, Gore and businessman T. Boone Pickens. The town hall will be moderated by John Podesta, former chief of staff to President Bill Clinton. Podesta is CEO of the Center for American Progress, a think tank.

Clinton will be there, as well as Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa and former presidential candidate Gen. Wesley Clark, the co-chairman of Growth Energy and an advocate for ethanol energy. In 2005 Clinton challenged Las Vegas' business community at the Nevada Development Authority's annual meeting to lead the nation in moving toward conservation and renewable energy.

Reid let it slip that California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger would be there, but the governor hasn't yet confirmed.

Those who will be attending include local economist Keith Schwer, director of UNLV's Center for Business and Economic Research; NV Energy CEO Michael Yackira; Bright Source Energy CEO John Woolard; and American Wind Energy Association CEO Denise Bode.

Those announced earlier include Energy Secretary Stephen Chu; United Nations Foundation President and former Sen. Tim Wirth, D-Colo.; and Van Jones, White House Council on Environmental Quality special adviser.

The summit is organized by Reid and the Center for American Progress Action Fund.

Money for energy projects

The Treasury and Energy departments are accepting applications for direct payments instead of tax credits to companies that create and operate renewable energy facilities since Jan. 1.

The government expects to hand out at least \$3 billion for 5,000 biomass, solar, wind and other renewable energy production facilities through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

Since the recession began, fewer renewable energy installations have been built because loans were difficult to get, the Treasury said. The government expects an acceleration of businesses applying for the cash payments, a potential stimulus to local economies.

Go to treas1603.nrel.gov for more information.

More money for Nevada

The state will get \$14 million for renewable energy projects through the federal recovery act.

The money will go toward energy efficiency retrofits in state buildings and schools, the creation of an energy efficient traffic signal and streetlight program and the adoption of 2009 residential and commercial building codes.

If done correctly, the state stands to gain another \$17 million.

California to buy local solar energy

Pacific Gas and Electric Co. has agreed to buy solar energy generated at El Dorado Energy, a subsidiary of Sempra Generation.

The solar power will be collected at the Copper Mountain Solar facility, which begins construction later this year and finished in 2011. Once it is operating, it's expected to generate an average of 100 gigawatt-hours of electricity each year, equal to the annual consumption of more than 14,000 homes.

This will be Pacific Gas' second contract for renewable energy from Sempra Generation, but California Public Utilities Commission approval is needed.

Nicole Lucht covers health care, workplace, energy and banking issues for In Business Las Vegas and its sister publication, the Las Vegas Sun. She can be reached at 259-8832 or at nicole.lucht@lasvegassun.com.

Give Wind Energy Study Group a Chance – *Holland Sentinel* – 8/6/09

By Peter Boogaart

Zeeland, MI — The July 27 commentary by Sue Sliwinski, “Wind power’s false promise,” is a curious response to the *Sentinel*’s July 13 article about the Michigan Sea Grant funded study of wind power. At some length, she advances her view that there are no viable commercial applications of wind power. She, of course, is free to hold and express whatever opinion she likes; what’s curious is that her commentary lacks congruence with the original article.

In her haste to lobby the lakeshore community, Ms. Sliwinski charges right past the content of the article. Did she not hear the study’s principle investigator recognize the potential for controversy and the importance of hearing both positive and negative input? Does she not grasp the difference between a study and a recommendation? Why is she unable to embrace the study’s goal of avoiding “paralyzing conflict?”

Ms. Sliwinski is nothing if not relentless in her assertion that wind power isn’t viable. By the time she’s finished, there aren’t many bullets left in her chamber. The barrage includes shots at the wind study group, “our decision makers,” Al Gore, wind power developers, the Pickens Plan and carbon offset programs. This enfilade obscures the fact that her application of the viability concept is selective. Would petroleum and coal be viable if critiqued in the same way?

The study group seems to understand that good decisions come from good discussions. We need to hear all the arguments, positive and negative. Ms. Sliwinski doesn’t grasp that point, and it’s difficult to see anything other than “paralyzing conflict” resulting from her approach.

Energy is the great issue of our time. We can’t afford to get this one wrong. We can’t pull a future prepackaged from the shelf; it has to be built one good decision at a time. Wind power will be some part of that future and we can’t afford to surrender the option. The single-issue politics of Ms. Sliwinski will not serve us well. A good discussion of energy policy has to mean that everything is on the table: sources of energy, zoning, building codes, rate structures, housing design and public transit. Because societies operate in organic fashion, each system impacting the other, this is going to be a long and complicated discussion. We shouldn’t rush to judgment — for or against. The study group will be holding town hall meetings. Let it do its work.

BLOG/ONLINE COVERAGE

Schwarzenegger Joins Vegas Energy Summit – *KVVU* – 8/6/09

LAS VEGAS -- California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger will join the growing list of politicians and energy experts at next week’s National Clean Energy Summit in Las Vegas.

The summit, with its goal of debating and crafting clean energy policies, will be held Aug. 10 and 11 at the Cox Pavilion.

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, former President Bill Clinton, former Vice President Al Gore, Secretary of Energy Steven Chu and energy executive T. Boone Pickens will be among the guests.

Tickets are available to the public via the summit Web site.

National Clean Energy Summit 2.0 to be Streamed Live – *Domestic Fuel* – 8/6/09

By Joanna Schroeder

The National Clean Energy Summit 2.0: Jobs and the New Economy is taking place in Las Vegas on August 10th. If you can't participate in person, you're not out of luck. The event will be streamed live via Clean Skies. The summit convenes top energy and environment newsmakers from across the country where they will be discussing 'green' jobs, energy efficiency, energy independence, and more. The event was created by Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-Nev) in conjunction with the University of Nevada, Las Vegas and the Center for American Progress Action Fund.

Event speakers are a group of "who's, who" including U.S. Department of Energy Secretary Steven Chu, along with Van Jones, Special Adviser, White House Council on Environmental Quality; General Wesley Clark, Chairman, Growth Energy; Denise Bode, CEO, American Wind Energy Association, T. Boone Pickens, Pickens Capital Management, and U.S. Department of Labor Secretary Hilda L. Solis.

They will participate in the roundtable session: "Building the Clean-Energy Economy". The speakers will engage in discussions on the case for clean-energy investment, bringing energy-efficiency retrofits to scale and how to promote the market for renewable energy and energy infrastructure. Also on hand will be former Vice President Al Gore who will be participating in the "Clean-Energy Policy Community Town Hall," also broadcast live.

The event starts at 1:00 p.m. EDT on Monday, August 10, 2009. You can register for the onsite event on the National Clean Energy Summit website. The event will be broadcast live at www.cleanskies.com.

Can We Run 18-Wheelers on Batteries? – *BNET* – 8/6/09

By Jim Motavalli

When President Obama announced the awarding of \$2.4 billion in funding for electric vehicles (EVs) and battery manufacturing yesterday, the big news was that Michigan, the Big Three and established companies with an established connection to Ford, Chrysler or GM (and especially the Chevy Volt) made out well. Start-up companies did not fare well, but there are other funding announcements to come.

Bound to be overlooked in all the fuss were the smaller awards to the smaller companies, even when the funding makes an important point. Is the electric car revolution all about cars? It shouldn't be. Ever since the U.S. began to shift commercial shipping from rail to truck (in the 1920s) we've faced highway gridlock and diesel pollution, not to mention a security nightmare—a few well-placed terrorist attacks on highways could paralyze interstate shipping.

With Commerce Secretary Gary Locke in attendance, the Department of Energy awarded \$10 million to little-known Smith Electric Vehicles, which makes fairly large battery trucks in Kansas City, Missouri. The DOE grant, by cutting the final price to customers by as much as half, will speed the delivery of the company's trucks into major commercial fleets operated by AT&T, Coca-Cola, Frito-Lay, Staples and Pacific Gas & Electric. (Staples got the keys to the first truck last week.)

For me, a big question is this: How much of American long-distance hauling could ultimately be moved by electric trucks. T. Boone Pickens told me that 18-wheelers will never be able to run on batteries, and that's why he advocates natural gas power for them. But is he right? I asked Smith CEO Bryan Hansel who, at the Kansas City ceremony, had hailed "the potential today for tens of thousands of electric trucks in the fleets of corporate America."

Hansel says that, with current battery technology, 18-wheeler EVs wouldn't work. "Those trucks travel hundreds of miles in a day, and to have them stop every 60 or 70 miles for a lengthy recharge would not be a duty cycle that would make any sense," he said. "You could put a great big electric motor on one of those rigs, but it would be pointless right now."

But Hansel notes the huge resources going into battery technology today, and thinks the time of the 18-wheel EV will arrive. He cites Moore's law for computers, and thinks that recharge times will be cut in half and range doubled. "In the future, we'll be able to electrify almost everything on wheels," he said.

The electric Smith Newton (which costs \$150,000) is the size of a large delivery van; it can reach 30 feet, carrying a 22-foot box. It has a top speed of 50 mph, a 100-mile range, and a 16,000-pound payload. The smaller Transit Connect is intended for city duty, can carry 1,600 pounds and reach 70 mph. It's zero to 30 time is faster than the gasoline equivalent.

Smith is opening a new Kansas City plant to provide what it calls "green collar" jobs. It targets the same basic market as Rocky Mountain Institute spinoff and Indiana-based Bright Automotive, which builds a plug-in hybrid van targeted at some of the same commercial fleets.

Smith is privately held and owned by Private Investors Management and the Tanfield Group Plc, which also owns the venerable Smith Electric Vehicles of Britain (launched in the 1920s). The Newton truck has been on European roads for three years, and is used for mail and parcel delivery, logistics, retail highway maintenance and airports.

The new plant opens next month, giving Smith U.S. production. The company has been importing finished trucks (based on Avia "gliders" from the Czech Republic) that were assembled at its sister plant in England.

The commercial market can be lucrative. The Japanese postal service, for instance, is converting its fleet of 22,000 delivery trucks to electric operation, and U.S.-based Ener1 (also a DOE recipient) and Think Global are two contractors on that project.

Forget Wind Turbines, Or Solar Panels, We Need To Fund New Power Lines – *Business Insider* – 8/7/09

By Jay Yarow

Lost in the talk of the climate bill, stimulus spending on electric cars, and renewable energy, is the fact that our transmission system is decrepit. Unless we fix that glaring problem, bringing any of the aforementioned projects to life is going to be almost impossible, Bloomberg reports.

Efforts to transform and rebuild our transmission system in the United States are woefully underfunded. Obama only dedicated \$6 billion to upgrading the system in the stimulus package. That's a miniscule amount, considering that the Energy Department and power companies say \$130 billion is needed. It's also less than half what our energy rival China is dedicating to building new lines of power.

Without these improved lines, the big clean energy objectives of the administration aren't feasible. Wind power and solar power need stronger transmission lines as well as more stations to direct them. Here's an example of failed alternative energy stemming from a weak grid, via Bloomberg:

The consequences of failing to improve the grid played out last year in Texas, the biggest U.S. generator of wind power with 7,907 megawatts, enough to supply about 6.3 million homes. When winds died in February 2008, utilities had to cut power to factories and offices as output dropped 82 percent.

Texas's transmission network is mostly independent of the nation's. Without added power lines, operators were unable to draw enough replacement electricity to keep businesses supplied.

It's not entirely clear that the U.S. government needs to foot this bill. There's other ways for the government to change the process. T. Boone Pickens who had his wind farm plans scaled back says we just need to federal government to assert authority over states for siting power lines. States have more authority over power lines right now, but if the federal government stepped in, and changed that, it could cause a boom for private developers.

Also, let's not forget electricity production is a profitable enterprise. Utilities and other power producers should be paying for this, which seems to be the thinking of the administration:

The administration is counting on private utilities and transmission developers to complement its investment, according to Wellinghoff. Yet a full refit of the U.S. grid would cost \$13 billion annually over 10 years, compared with the \$5 billion a year averaged over the last decade, said Rich Lordan of the Electric Power Research Institute, an industry-funded energy research organization in Palo Alto, California.

If utilities are forced to pay for new lines, then consumer bills rise, and politicians get blamed. So we could get caught in a game of chicken to see who's willing to fund new power lines.

Economic Benefits Of Renewables The Focus Of Clean Energy Summit – *Power Online* – 8/7/09

This Monday, the eyes of the nation will be on Las Vegas, where some of the most prominent figures advancing the cause of renewable energy will converge. Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV), former Vice President and Nobel Prize winner Al Gore, financier T. Boone Pickens and others will meet at the National Clean Energy Summit to discuss "Jobs and the New Economy."

To show that the economic benefits of renewable energy are no mirage, a program called Clean Energy Pioneers is chronicling the jobs and new economic vitality that have already taken root in the West through the development of the region's abundant, clean, and renewable energy.

This month, the Clean Energy Pioneers program, sponsored by Environmental Defense Fund, Rocky Mountain Farmers Union and Western Resource Advocates, turns its attention to the jobs and economic benefits created by developing Nevada's bountiful geothermal resources. Geothermal produces a constant, reliable and nearly inexhaustible flow of energy that can power communities in Nevada and surrounding states.

Ormat Technologies, Inc. is August's Clean Energy Pioneer. The Reno-based company employs 130 Nevadans at four geothermal power plants in the Sierra Nevada Mountains. Due to Nevada's extraordinary potential, many more projects are in the works.

"We've only scratched the surface. The potential for this resource is endless," said Paul Thomsen, director of policy and business development for Ormat.

Creating clean, renewable energy isn't the only benefit of Ormat's operations.

"Nevada needs clean renewable energy as well as a new source of jobs and economic development to diversify its economy," said Charles Benjamin, Western Resource Advocates' Nevada Director. "Ormat has been a pioneer in producing both for Nevada and will lead the way for greater use of wind, solar and increased energy efficiency."

Nevada's geothermal resources already have a track record of success, providing power to communities in the northern area of the state. Research from the Western Governors' Association 2006 Geothermal Task Force Report estimates about 5,630 megawatts of geothermal energy are viable for commercial development in the West by 2015. That's almost 70% more energy than would have been provided by the three major coal plant proposals in Nevada that have recently been shelved or are struggling to gain approval.

"Nevada has the opportunity to lead the nation in the generation of clean energy," said Dan Grossman of Environmental Defense Fund. "Some of the nation's finest solar, wind and geothermal resources are available in this state and Nevada has the opportunity to be a nationwide leader in the creation of green jobs."

Developing clean renewable energy can help bring economic recovery to the West's vast expanses of rural areas.

"The importance of renewable energy to rural economies can't be underestimated," said Bill Midcap of the Rocky Mountain Farmers Union. "Renewable energy can provide the economic diversity that helps farmers and rural communities smooth out the ups and downs of commodity prices so that family farmers can stay in business and small towns can give their young people more opportunities."

Rocky Mountain Farmers Union is a progressive, grassroots organization dedicated to achieving profitability for family farmers and ranchers, promoting stewardship of land and water resources, delivering safe, healthy food to consumers, and strengthening rural communities through education, legislation, and cooperation. For more information, visit www.rmfu.org

Environmental Defense Fund, a leading national nonprofit organization, represents more than 500,000 members. Since 1967, Environmental Defense Fund has linked science, economics, law and innovative private-sector partnerships to create breakthrough solutions to the most serious environmental problems. For more information, visit www.edf.org.

Western Resource Advocates, protects the West's land, air, and water recognizing that success can only come from working collaboratively with other conservation groups, hunters and fishermen, ranchers, American Indians, and all those who seek a sustainable future for this remarkable part of the country. For more information, visit www.westernresourceadvocates.org

BROADCAST COVERAGE

1. American Advisor
KTKK-AM 630 (ABC/NBC) Salt Lake City
08/05/2009 03:00 PM - 03:30 PM

DMA: 33

00:16:54 Toyota says that within 5 yrs they will come out with a hydrogen fuel cell car --- it is an electric car, but it doesn't run on batteries, has its own **fuel** cell that generates electricity constantly. Better Idea. That's a better mousetrap. But what are we doing? We're building the old mouse traps. And the president is giving them two billion dollars in pork barrel money to build old fashioned mouse traps. Does that make sense? I don't think so and then listen to this .I heard **T Boone Pickens** interviewed today and Pickens

said this. He has he said---we have more **natural gas**. We have two times as much **natural gas** in this country as Saudi Arabia has **oil**. We could **fuel** all our vehicles and power plants on **natural gas** for maybe a hundred years to come without ever importing a drop of **oil** He said that a bill has just recently passed the House of Representatives that will require semi trucks , a big truck, to modify all the new trucks that are built, to be built using propane, or **natural gas... natural gas** which is propane so they will run on **natural gas** and he said that they'll probably have some kind of an electric motor component also but they will use a combination engine. Well that's a thing of the future then what he said next really astounded me . He said you know the use of **natural gas** extensively all throughout Europe. He said did you know that General Motors has twenty seven different cars that they run on **natural gas** in Europe? Twenty seven different models to choose from. But they don't have a single one here .. You know, we, the United States, has the lowest usage of propane powered, **natural gas** powered vehicles of any country in the world. How does that make sense ?Do you think that somebody,some of the big money guys are really running the show and they're taking advantage of you and me 00:19:53

00:26:03 For example, I ,you know I learn things every day. I was listening to **T Boone Pickens** who was one of the most dominant and knowledgeable **oilmen, energy** people in the entire world, and he says that they're making all kinds of **natural gas** powered vehicles for Europe and other parts of the world. Is anybody out there have a reason, an idea why we don't do that? Why aren't we doing that? General Motors he said has 27 different models that run on propane in Europe ,or **natural gas** rather in Europe. Why don't they sell those cars here ? 00:29:00

2. Ricci Ware
KTSA-AM 550 (IND) San Antonio
08/05/2009 12:00 PM - 01:00 PM

DMA: 37
Spot Cost: \$44
Est. Audience: 6,200

00:18:02 If somebody like **T Boone Pickens** recently came out and said that the billions he was going to put into wind, he's now decided are not going to provide sufficient power for Texas ...If even **T Boone Pickens** the prophet of **wind energy** is backtracking, how you make the case for wind? ... One of the things that people need to look at closely is what companies like CPS say we need ..wind is not the only opportunity for renewables...there are other things being researched at this time, things like water...
00:18:32