



TEXAS EAGLE FORUM  
**TORCH**

November 2014 • Volume 27 • No. 8



# Obama's War on American Energy

by Cathie Adams, TEF President

**Radical environmentalists claim that “climate change” is “the defining issue of our time.” President Barack Obama made it a top priority of his second term, saying that**

**“failure to do so would betray our children and future generations.”**

Secretary of State John Kerry goes even further by saying that those who deny “climate change” are “as big of a threat as disease outbreaks, terrorism, poverty and weapons of mass destruction.”

Really?

The climate IS always changing, but is it a natural phenomenon or is it caused by

Continued on Page 2

## In This Issue

Obama's War on American Energy .....	1
Eagle Council XLIII: A Great Success!.....	3
Cliff Notes.....	4

*Progress Through Preservation of Traditional Values*

# Obama's War on American Energy

Continued from Page 1

burning fossil fuels, primarily coal and natural gas? If the radical environmentalists' claim is true that burning fossil fuels causes "global warming/climate change," then the "fix" is to severely limit the use of fossil fuels to render "climate justice."

"Climate justice" is the radical environmentalists' euphemism to severely limit fossil fuel use. It was debated at a conference last month in Houston hosted by the Texas Public Policy Foundation and The Heritage Foundation entitled, "At The Crossroads, Energy & Climate Policy Summit."

Scientists at the conference presented a myriad of reasons why "climate justice" is unnecessary because the globe isn't warming. And "climate change" has been a natural cycle since time immemorial. Furthermore, to severely limit fossil fuel use would be devastating for nations trying to climb out of poverty because economies are built upon clean, safe, abundant and dependable sources of energy, which happen to be fossil fuels.

Because the American economy is run on coal and natural gas, President Obama is employing his pen, federal bureaucracies and the courts to demand that our dependable fossil-fuel-powered energy plants be retrofitted to "renewables" such as wind, solar, seaweed, corn, etc.

All of this in spite of the fact that science has showed no worldwide warming in the past 19 to 26 years. And the radicals' claim that burning fossil fuels causes more and worse hurricanes, tornados, floods and droughts is just not happening. The icecaps at the North Pole are not disappearing, and the South Pole ice pack is actually growing.

The ONLY place where manmade "global warming/climate change" exists is in computer models. And everyone knows that if you put junk in, you get junk out—even junk science.

Nonetheless, Obama is set on making good his infamous 2008 promise: "So, if somebody wants to build a coal plant, they can—it's just that it will bankrupt them, because they are going to be charged a huge sum for all that greenhouse gas [CO<sub>2</sub>, a helpful, not harmful gas] that's being emitted."

What difference does Obama's war on coal make in our state? Texans began mining coal in 1819, and today we are the fourth largest producer in the country. We have 24 lignite mines that generate \$6.2 billion annually to our economy. We also benefit from its 23,000 jobs and its \$641 million in annual taxes. Texas' coal-powered energy plants are the second cleanest in the country, since most were built after 1970. Even so, there are two challenges to the future of coal: natural gas is cheaper, and lawsuits against federal regulations on coal are outrageously expensive.

Obama is also at war with Texas' natural gas industry that supports nearly 12 percent or about 1.3 million jobs that are directly and indirectly related to developing natural gas.

The war cry against fossil fuels originated at the 1992 United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Recently, Ban Ki-moon, the UN Secretary-General, told the General Assembly that climate change is a defining issue of

---

***"Texans began mining coal in 1819, and today we are the fourth largest producer in the country."***

---

our time, adding that, "Our foot is stuck on the accelerator and we are heading towards an abyss."

Like a religion, Ki-moon clings to "climate change" which he thinks causes flooding and drought, desertification and loss of land. The UN rails against herds of livestock calling for "meatless Mondays." Most telling, it blames capitalism and ridicules our desire to maintain our standard of living.

The UN's and Obama's demand for "climate justice" would rob every person on earth a decent standard of living. Obama bragged, "Under my plan of a cap-and-trade system, electricity rates would necessarily skyrocket. Coal-powered plants, you know, natural gas, you name it, whatever the plants were, whatever the industry was, they would have to retrofit their operations. That will cost money. They will pass that money on to consumers."

Retrofitting coal and natural gas powered energy plants to wind and solar is impossible because the technology is not there as evidenced by Obama's wasting tax dollars on companies like the failed solar company, Solyndra. And the billions being dumped into federal subsidies for windmills that are run by natural gas when the wind doesn't blow. The fact is that taxpayers have wasted billions on solar and wind technologies, yet they're wholly inadequate and radically undependable energy sources. Obama has yet to figure out that the sun doesn't always shine and the wind doesn't always blow.

Making matters worse, the federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has decreed that carbon dioxide, CO<sub>2</sub>, the major greenhouse gas emitted when fossil fuels are burned, is a pollutant that causes "climate change." Federal bureaucrats are demanding that CO<sub>2</sub> be reduced by 30 percent by 2030, which would starve the American economy of the needed energy to run our industries and maintain our standard of living.

CO<sub>2</sub> is NOT a pollutant. As a matter of fact, greenhouses boost CO<sub>2</sub> levels to enhance plant growth. Every school child learns that photosynthesis is the Creator's method to emit CO<sub>2</sub>, whether through the largest source which is from volcanic eruptions or from burning fossil fuels, then as plants and trees take in the CO<sub>2</sub>, they emit oxygen. It's a perfect balance.

We can rest easy that there is NO scientific basis for the President's demand to discontinue the use of clean energy sources like coal and natural gas. In light of these facts, it is wise for us to be good stewards of God's creation and to embrace sound science. Let's relay these facts to our children, grandchildren and elected officials.



Texas Eagles with Phyllis Schlafly at Eagle Council in St. Louis.

# Eagle Council XLIII: A Great Success!

Three hundred Eagles from across the country, including many from Texas, gathered in St. Louis, Missouri, September 19-21 for Eagle Forum's 43rd annual Eagle Council.



Former UN Ambassador John Bolton addresses "America's Place in the World" at Eagle Council.

Friday afternoon showcased 28 Eagle leaders; each had three minutes to share a specific project they are working on in their state. TEF President **Cathie Adams** spoke on "Defending Texas Families," and **Trayce Bradford**, President of Dallas EF and Tarrant County EF, shared "Eagles Standing for Life." This was followed by an announcement of the annual Eagle Awards, honoring those from each state who have worked to preserve "God, Family and Country." Texas State Board of Education member **Ken Mercer** deservedly received the 2014 award from Texas.

The afternoon continued with a panel on "Conservative Impact in New Media," and another on the dangers of online



Rev. Rafael Cruz was a keynote speaker at Eagle Council.

gambling. **Phyllis Schlafly**, founder and president of Eagle Forum, then introduced her new book, "Who Killed the American Family?"

Friday evening opened with the national anthem followed by a 90th birthday tribute to Phyllis and her acceptance of the Jesse Helms award. Conservative favorite **Rep. Michele Bachmann** (R-MN) gave the keynote address, "Keeping America Prosperous, Safe, and Strong." After the dinner, attendees had the option of attending a workshop on "Common Core Grassroots Guidance" or "Agenda 21."

Saturday morning featured talks from Common Core experts, and **Andy Schlafly** sharing, "The Inside Story Behind Roe v. Wade" and victories for life gained within the past year. **Former UN Ambassador John Bolton** was the highlight of the afternoon luncheon with his keynote address on "America's Place in the World." Saturday afternoon speeches included the IRS scandal, religious liberty vs. anti-discrimination, the invasion of America (presented by Cathie), Eric Holder, and Phyllis' newly updated and expanded edition of "A Choice Not An Echo."

Saturday evening's dinner program began with a tribute to the late Admiral Jeremiah Denton. **Phyllis** then presented the Full-Time Homemaker of the Year Award to Alabama's **Unie Smith**. Cathie introduced **Rev. Rafael Cruz** (Sen. Ted Cruz's father), whose encouraging and inspiring keynote speech, "Standing for the American Dream: What Conservatives Must Do," received a standing ovation. The evening ended with more workshops.

Eagle Council concluded on Sunday, and all agreed that this Eagle Council was one of the best conferences yet in Eagle Forum's history! Eagles returned home equipped and encouraged to continue on in the fight to preserve conservative values in America.



# Eagle Cliff Notes

## Kiss Keystone Jobs Goodbye

Frustrated by the Obama Administration's continued delays, a Canadian energy company is expected to file plans shortly to build a new pipeline for the oil that was supposed to run through the Keystone XL pipeline. But instead of going south to our Gulf Coast refineries, the oil will likely go east to Europe and India. The new Canadian pipeline will be twice as long as the Keystone pipeline, carry 30 percent more oil and could be in operation in three years—less than half the time Washington bureaucrats have spent studying and delaying the Keystone project. And instead of American jobs being created by the construction of the Keystone pipeline, radical environmentalists have only succeeded in creating new jobs in Canada.  
SOURCE: Gary Bauer, American Values, 10/9/14

## Abortion A Right?

*USA Today's* editorial board penned a piece entitled, "Abortion safety as a pretext: Our view" on October 10. In it, the staff called abortion a "right burdened by so many unnecessary obstacles" and detailed how "abortion foes" are "chipping away" at *Roe v. Wade's* "guarantee." From the beginning, the piece claimed, "States have every obligation to ensure that abortions are performed safely." "But when states use safety as a pretext to put providers out of business, they make abortion riskier for all women and deny some a right." (Babies not included.) Pointing to Texas, the staff wrote how "an abortion has become almost meaningless for many women," after downsizing from 41 abortion clinics last year to eight today. The editorial staff blamed the change on the state's "onerous regulations" that translate into "costly renovations and force providers to affiliate with hospitals." Among other concerns, *USA Today* warned, "Women unable to travel might turn to dangerous alternatives." Or—gasp—they might rethink their choice to end a baby's life.  
SOURCE: Big Health Report, 10/11/14

## Feds Go Spend-Crazy At Year's End

Due to wasteful spending regulations, federal agencies are not permitted to carry over surplus funds from one fiscal year to the next. So as the year's end approaches, the agencies go on a wild spending spree to use up any unspent funds before they are forfeited to the Treasury. As the September 30 end of the 2013–2014 fiscal year approached, the IRS suddenly found the need to spend \$2.41 million on "toner products." The Department of Homeland Security felt compelled to pay \$251,016 for "Aeron Mesh Task Chairs," and \$15,198 for two pianos. The U.S. embassy in New Delhi, India, spent \$20,362 on alcoholic beverages, bringing the outlay for booze by the State Department to nearly \$100,000 in September. The department also spent nearly \$25,000 for 50-inch LED HD televisions for the embassy in Kabul, Afghanistan. The Department of Veterans Affairs spent more than \$1.8 million on artwork. The Pentagon alone spent about \$5.5 billion on the last day of the fiscal year, and Defense Department officials even sent an email urging employees to spend as much as they could, according to the *Fiscal Times*.  
SOURCE: [Newsmax.com](http://Newsmax.com), 10/5/2014

## 62 Million People In U.S. Do Not Speak English At Home

An all-time high of nearly 62 million U.S. residents—or about one in five people—now speak a language other than English while at home, a new report from the Center for Immigration Studies (CIS) found. The study, based on data from the U.S. Census Bureau, found 44 percent of those who don't speak English primarily at home—a total of about 27.2 million—were born in the U.S. CIS's research director Steven Camarota said that this means the U.S.'s current immigration system is failing to properly assimilate people from foreign countries, and those assimilation problems are carrying over into future generations. Camarota said that can be attributed to all-time high levels of legal immigration with over a million people a year admitted into the U.S. legally, and a new "tolerance" in Washington for the continued surge of illegal immigration. "Allowing in over one million new legal immigrants a year and to a lesser extent tolerating illegal immigration has important implications for preserving a common language," said Camarota.  
SOURCE: Breitbart News Roundup, 10/6/14

## Quote of the Month

*"It's that simple. ISIS doesn't have a navy, they don't have an air force, they don't have nuclear weapons. The only way that ISIS is going to harm Americans is by coming in through the southern border—which they already have."*

Rep. Duncan Hunter, Jr. (R-CA), 10/8/14, saying that if the administration really wanted to protect the American people from ISIS, they would secure the southern border.

## Great American Quote

*"We the People are the rightful masters of both Congress and the Courts—not to overthrow the Constitution, but to overthrow the men who pervert the Constitution."*

Abraham Lincoln

---

**TEXAS EAGLE FORUM**  
President  
Cathie Adams  
Vice-President  
MerryLynn Gerstenschlager  
Editor  
Marilyn Statler

---

For a subscription to the TORCH please send \$20 to:  
**TEXAS EAGLE FORUM**  
P.O. Box 795354  
Dallas, TX 75379  
Email: [torch@texaseagle.org](mailto:torch@texaseagle.org)  
Web: [texaseagle.org](http://texaseagle.org)