

Dawson, Tim J.

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Sent: Monday, April 07, 2014 4:07 PM
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Subject: Farm Kids Teaching Farm Kids about Benefits and Detriments: North Dakota Stewardship Leaders
Attachments: 1932 API committee re Disposal of Production Division Wastes.pdf; 2014-4-4 Stewardship ND Sen. Robert Stroup Gov. John Davis Gov.pdf

Greetings Senator Wardner and Energy Development Committee Members,

Thank you for the dedication you bring to bear on soil stewardship matters. I wish I was, but I am not a farmer. I am a grandson of homesteaders. My father, Deputy Director of North Dakota Department of Public Instruction, Kiaran Dooley grew up in Benson County, born in Dooley-McElligott Clans. My mother was Katherine McCauley McDonald. Her families homesteaded northeast of Deering in McHenry County, a few miles east of Glenburn. My mother taught in Mohall. My father taught science and coached in Glenburn. Farm kids teaching farm kids about stewardship.

When you join us on our June 2014 Second Annual Salted Lands Tour, we will visit Glenburn watersheds and farmlands lands damaged by ***produced water and fracture water return flows***.

I won't be with you tomorrow but I offer a few personal insights about contaminated land and water. My front seat in the international oil industry began in 1953. I was a Belfield third-grader, thrilled to get up close and watch wells being drilled near Freiburg. In 1968, after I coached a winning track team and after I completed my one year science teaching contract in Carson, while I was awaiting the Vietnam Era Draft, I found well-paid work as a rough neck on two high pressure wells south of Gillette. I love the adrenaline. The better managed of those two wells blew out. The other's evaporation pit overflowed during a thunderstorm, pouring salt and chemicals into the adjoining creek.

On my way to a dream job on the North Slope of Alaska, I worked in the Louisiana swamps. The most decrepit of the four oil rigs I worked on pumped its effluents directly the bayous. My next employers were based in Morgan City. I worked on cigarette boats delivering supplies to deep-water rig, then worked with Cajuns dragging nets through the Gulf of Mexico catching shrimp. Then and now well-managed oil and shrimp industries thrive side-by-side.

My last job before my military service was on new, 500 foot tall, deep water rig owned by Sinclair Oil. Our drilling rig was state-of-the-art, an artificial reef. Both Gulf Coast fish and the fisherman loved us. We functioned like well-run monastery. In 1968, the drilling and of the oil patch was ***for men only***. Before, during and after my legal career, I have studied the oil industry in South America, traveled and taught in Nigeria and Kazakhstan. I study other nations' environmental problems because when you get up close you discover their governance problems are dire warnings for us.

As a father of five veterans of recent oil wars, three pilots, one nurse, and one Afghan War command staff member, I am pleased that my North Dakota is moving our nation toward energy independence, creating jobs and welcoming new residents.

I commend elected and appointed leaders including Mr. Lynn Helms. Growth of the Bakken has brought billions of dollars of benefits. However, there is another legacy, it is an uncalculated detriment in the form of contaminated water damaged farmlands lands. Restoration of our water and land will provide thousands of young and old scientists jobs. If you can make it in the North Dakota oil patch you can make it anywhere. Remediation will restore our state's water and oil lands to pre-oil drilling productivity, generate taxes and increase surface owners' confidence in state government. Our witnesses tomorrow will talk on the last matter, what confidence should citizens repose in state government?

North Dakota's Salted Waters and Land's Legacy should not be considered a surprise. Industry knew what not to do in 1932. See the first dozen pages of the first attachment, a document produced by the American Petroleum Industry, API. Not all industry nor government leaders told what they knew and few paid attention. We were excited about money. We must pay attention now. Salt contamination of land and water is disclosed more conspicuously now, especially from the air, because we have endured decades of wetter years. Although the majority of our state's salt problem is a detriment that has accrued in the first 63 years of the conventional oil industry, the unconventional Bakken is producing and spilling saltwater. The total acres of salted land and numbers of affected aquifers continues to accumulate. We can no longer delay remediation. Just as coal mining occurred long before Stroup and Link **took ahold of the plow** and not did let go, neither can we. Oklahoma waited 100 years before it began its cleanup of its 500,000 well sites. We can begin to be truly effective right now, after only 63 years.

As a favor to those of you not privileged to meet three of North Dakota's public servants who have passed, I offer personal remembrances of three state level stewardship leaders who ought to be as revered as President Teddy Roosevelt. See the second attachment. The author of North Dakota's Coal Mined Land Reclamation Law was the Republican Senate Majority Leader, Robert Stroup of Hazen. He led ND's independent bankers, who then and now, serve communities full of strip miners, farmers, and ranchers.

The second is Governor Art Link of Alexander who gets all the credit for what Stroup and Link collaboratively mandated, that is, the restoration of agricultural lands to pre-mine levels. His daughter, Robyn Stroup Vinje, and his son, Fargo Attorney Robert Stroup II, assert, "Democratic Governor Art Link vetoed the first coal severance tax bill our father authored. Democrats objected to a five cent a ton severance tax because unions feared job loss. Governor Link was ultimately persuaded to tax his political allies."

Consider the courage required to enact Stroup-Link's Severance and Reclamation Laws during the Arab Oil Boycott and perhaps be called "...disloyal because you are slowing down President Richard Nixon's Project Independence. As legislators, Stroup and Link served the people of our state while Republican John Davis was governor. He was as handsome in the saddle as Ronald Reagan. Sheridan County ranch kid Davis won Bronze and Silver Stars during World War II. So highly regarded was he that he was elected the National Commander of American Legion. To honor the Davis family's most famous warrior and statesman, his family conveyed his Sheridan County ranch to The Nature Conservancy.

Senator Wardner, Committee Members, when you are dead, let it be said of you, " They we were peers of President Teddy Roosevelt, Governors John Davis, Art Link, and Senate Majority Leader Robert Stroup."

Our state's prosperity requires prosperity in our state's soul. When we do right, after the Bakken's 18 wheelers are melted down, after we are all in our graves, our children will still harvest wheat and barley and raise beef cattle on old coal mines and on old oil well sites.



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From: Robyn Vinje [<mailto:rsvinje@cableone.net>]
Sent: Tuesday, March 18, 2014 3:54 PM
To: findooley@wi.rr.com
Subject: Bob Stroup picture

Finton - I am Bob Stroup's daughter, and my brother just sent you a picture of our father for your talk on energy development in ND next month. I'm wondering if you would be kind enough to send us a copy of your presentation when you have it ready - we would be interested in your whole presentation.

Thanks. Robyn Vinje