## TODAY'S "SHORT TOPIC" LOW GAS PRICES! BUT THAT DOESN'T LET OBAMA OFF THE HOOK!

(He had nothing to do with it!)

By Stephen L. Bakke 🌅 January 9, 2015



## Here's what provoked me:

An editorial cartoon clearly showed the cartoonist's lack of insight into the very real nuances of public policy and the reality of current events. His cartoons are too often a mile wide and an inch deep. This cartoon clearly wants to deliver the message that because gas prices are low, there can be no more blaming Obama for high pump prices. Boy that was a simple analysis wasn't it! So let's move on! Right? WRONG!

## Here's my response:

## Low Gas Prices! But that doesn't let Obama off the hook! (He had nothing to do with it!)

The Marlette editorial cartoon on 1-8 is another example of this cartoonist's lack of insight into the nuances of public policy and the reality of current events. His cartoons are too often a mile wide and an inch deep. This cartoon depicts a GOP elephant with an "empty" gas gauge, clearly indicating there can be no more blaming Obama for high pump prices. Wow! That was a simple analysis wasn't it! Let's move on! Right?

Wrong! Obama can't claim any victory over gas prices! Regarding the affect of alternative renewable fuels, there's not yet much affect on prices. Quite simply, prices are down because private interests alone have increased production of oil and gas at a record pace in the United States. Actually, Obama was an obstacle, putting up barriers that were overcome! Also, OPEC felt threatened so they liberally released oil to the world market (check it out, it's true!); and many countries around the world are suffering severe economic distress. Add all



of these together: huge production in the U.S.; OPEC dumping oil on the market; and poor worldwide economic performance – it adds up to price reductions at the pump.

Whenever evaluating a situation, or making decisions, it's best to start with the facts!