

Mount, Gail

From: Steffi Rausch <steffi@evolv.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 27, 2016 10:13 AM
To: Statements
Subject: Carbon Tax is coming down the pike, and you want us to pay for Duke's bad decision of locking us into carbon-based energy?

E100 SUB 141

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Dear NC Utilities Commission,

As citizens we feel frustrated — because we are told we need to change our lifestyle drastically — ~~we are told to stop~~ using so much energy, we are told to buy a hybrid car that we can't afford, we are told to insulate our homes better, replace our light bulbs, be more efficient and on and on and on. We need to get real! Climate change is happening because we put things that trap heat into the atmosphere. When you're on a sinking ship, the first thing you need to do is plug the hole, so we need to stop putting greenhouse gases into our atmosphere. The fastest way to do that is get renewables on the ground now, the fastest way to get them on the ground now is to make them cost-competitive or even cheaper than fossil fuels, and the only way to do that is to price carbon for its TRUE cost — to society and the environment. This is usually referred to as a carbon tax but can be in the form of a fee and dividend - where citizens get back this money via a monthly dividend

check to offset

the costs we will incur. There is both international support for this as well as bipartisan support in the U.S. There are even oil and gas companies on board, big banks, large businesses, top economists, and more. So basically carbon pricing is coming down the pike! Which means if we get locked into paying for carbon-based fuels including natural gas, then we, the citizens & consumers, will end up paying the cost of Duke's bad decisions. We need you, our commission, to not let that happen and start plugging the hole that we will fall into if you do nothing.

So who is in support of Carbon Fee & Dividend or revenue-neutral carbon tax?

Internationally there are:

- Four countries (Sweden, British Columbia in Canada, Chile, Ireland) have implemented some form of a carbon fee with revenues given back to their citizens to offset the impact to the economy, and sometimes this is done in combination with regulation.
- The leaders of France, Germany, Norway, Canada, Chile, Mexico and Ethiopia support a carbon tax.
- According to the Editorial Board of the NY Times nearly 40 countries around the world are engaged in some form of carbon pricing already.

In the US there are:

- Conservatives who support:

George Schultz, Reagan's Secretary of state Arthur B. Laffer, Reagan's Economic Policy Advisor Henry Paulson, George W. Bush's Treasury secretary Prior Rep. Bob Inglis from SC, author of "The Conservative Case for a Carbon Tax".

- Liberals who support:

Steven Chu, the longest serving Former Secretary of Energy Well-known climate scientists Dr. James Hansen & Dr. Katherine Hayhoe Elizabeth Warren & Bernie Sanders Even Obama was quoted as saying "I urge this Congress to pursue a bipartisan, market-based solution to climate change."

Carbon tax is going to happen and because of that we need to get on board with renewables now! We, the citizens can't do this alone. We need YOU to make this happen! Please make us proud!

Sincerely,

Steffi Rausch