

INFORMATION PACKET for WHITEFISH CITY COUNCIL

Proposed City of Whitefish Resolution to Support
The Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act, H.R. 763

March 11, 2020



Citizens' Climate Lobby

Robin L. Paone
Volunteer Leader, Flathead Valley Chapter
Volunteer State Co-Coordinator, Montana
Citizens' Climate Lobby
1057 Creek View Ct., Whitefish, MT
314-606-6175
Robin.L.Paone@gmail.com

Energy Innovation AND Carbon Dividend Act

THE BIPARTISAN CLIMATE SOLUTION

A healthy, stable, and prosperous America

The Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act ([H.R. 763](#)) will drive down America's carbon pollution and bring climate change under control, while unleashing American technology innovation and ingenuity. This policy was also introduced in the Senate in 2018 as [S. 3791](#).

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The Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act

Bipartisan carbon pricing bill finds broad support in and out of Congress

The Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act is cosponsored by more than 50 members of Congress across the political spectrum. It has garnered support from businesses, faith groups, NGOs and editorial boards across the country. This landmark bill will put a price on carbon pollution while creating American jobs, driving innovation, and improving public health.

Congress has found a simple, fair, and effective [bipartisan climate solution](#). At the beginning of this session of Congress, Rep. Ted Deutch (D-FL), Rep. Francis Rooney (R-FL) and five other representatives introduced the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act (H.R. 763). Today, the bill has more than 60 cosponsors, and the list continues to grow. This bipartisan bill in the House of Representatives will put a price on carbon emissions and return the revenue equally to people.

It is easily the most robust climate legislation on the table in Congress, and the only bipartisan climate bill with significant support. The Energy Innovation Act will drive down America's carbon pollution at least 40% in the first 12 years, and 90% by 2050. As it does so, it will also improve health and save lives by reducing the pollution that Americans breathe, boost the economy with millions of jobs, and stay revenue neutral.


["Polling shows"](#) that a majority of Americans, including Republicans, are concerned about climate change and want the government to act to limit carbon pollution," said Mark Reynolds, executive director of Citizens' Climate Lobby. "As public pressure increases for Congress to take action, the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act provides a solution that is both effective and family friendly."

Climate scientists are clear that to avoid the worst impacts of climate change, society must dramatically reduce its carbon dioxide emissions. That message was delivered in 2018's [National Climate Assessment](#) and the [Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's report](#). The IPCC report specifically mentioned carbon pricing as a way forward to effectively reduce emissions and stabilize our climate. The members of Congress supporting the Energy Innovation Act are now working together for the good of the country and for humanity to do just that.

Resolutions In Place Around the Country

A growing number of local governments across the United States have passed resolutions supporting the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act. Of note are local government resolutions, as of March 11, 2020, in these “coal states”: Pennsylvania (7), Illinois (2), Indiana (1), Ohio (3), Utah (4), and Virginia (1). See the <https://energyinnovationact.org/all-supporters/?opentype=local-governments> for more listings.

Council of the City of York, PA
Session 2019
Resolution No. 67

INTRODUCED BY:  Henry May Nixon DATE: August 20, 2019

A RESOLUTION
**Urging the United States Congress to enact the Energy
Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019**

WHEREAS, an Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change issued a special report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels in October 2018 warning that global warming is likely to reach 1.5°C between 2030 and 2052 if it continues to increase at the current rate; and

WHEREAS, the United Nations climate science body said in a monumental climate report that we have only 12 years left to make massive and unprecedented changes to global energy infrastructure to limit global warming to moderate levels; and

WHEREAS, the United States government released its Fourth Annual Climate Assessment in November 2018 reporting that the impacts of climate change are already being felt in communities across the country, and that more frequent and intense extreme weather and climate-related events, as well as changes in average climate

R 19-1

SALT LAKE CITY CORPORATION

Resolution
15 of 2019

**JOINT RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF A
NATIONAL PRICE ON CARBON EMISSIONS**

WHEREAS, *the National Climate Assessment is a report of the U.S. Global Change Research Program delivered to Congress and the President on a recurring basis; and*

WHEREAS, *the Fourth National Climate Assessment, released in 2017/18, was informed by a team of more than 300 federal and non-federal experts along with policy review by 13 federal agencies; and*

WHEREAS, *the Fourth National Climate Assessment aligns with previous assessments and the global scientific consensus in finding that global temperatures are increasing rapidly and the evidence consistently points to human activities, especially the emissions of greenhouse gases, as the dominant cause; and*

Climate Change in Montana

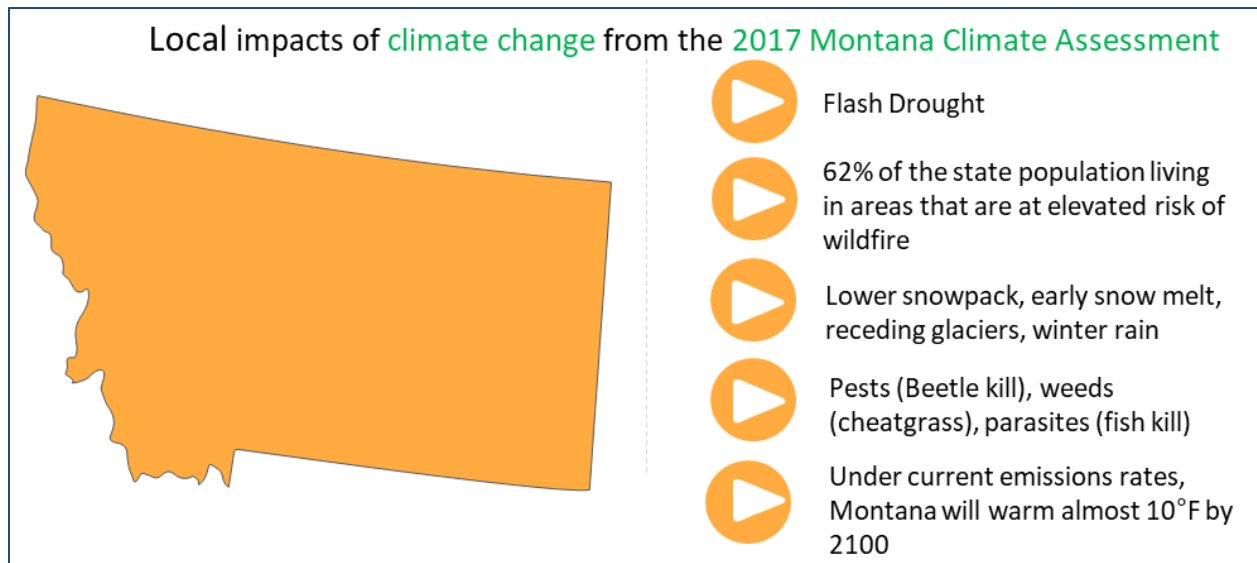
The rapid rate of climate change since the industrial revolution has resulted from increases in greenhouse gasses, mostly carbon dioxide, due to combustion of fossil fuels. The atmospheric concentration of carbon dioxide has increased over 100 ppm since Montana statehood in 1889. The 2017 Montana Climate Assessment made it clear that climate is changing in our state.

“Annual average temperatures, including daily minimums, maximums, and averages, have risen across the state between 1950 and 2015. The increases range between 2.0-3.0°F (1.1-1.7°C) during this period.”

(Page 8, [2017 Montana Climate Assessment](#), September 2017)

Montana’s average temperature has increased about twice the rate of the 1.6°F global average increase during the time period 1950 to 2015. (Climate.NASA.gov)

A summary of expected impacts to Montana due to unchecked climate change is summarized in the graphic below.



A Proposed City of Whitefish Resolution

Resolutions supporting climate action have been passed by the City of Whitefish City Council. In addition the Honorable Mayor John Muhlfeld created a proclamation upholding the Paris Climate Agreement.

“...WHEREAS, like those cities, the City of Whitefish believes that meaningful action is needed at all levels of government to mitigate and adapt to climate change, protect the public trust, ensure a resilient community, and leave a healthy environment and atmosphere for future generations; ...”

(Page 2, A Proclamation of the City of Whitefish, Montana Upholding the Paris Climate Agreement, June 19, 2017)

“Snow is melting earlier in the spring and fire seasons are longer. Longtime residents have observed these gradual changes, such as less-frequent freezing of Whitefish Lake. Today’s youth will experience more dramatic changes in the future.

While weather will continue to fluctuate annually and seasonally, the 2017 Montana Climate Assessment and other climate research project that young people will experience these changes in their lifetime:

- *4.5-6°F increase in annual average temperature by mid-century.*
- *Hotter and drier summers despite a slight increase in annual precipitation.*
- *Bigger wildfires and more smoke.*
- *More winter rain and less snow, especially in lower elevations.*
- *More weird weather and extreme events.*

Whitefish residents will experience impacts to our health, our infrastructure, and our favorite recreational activities, such as skiing, hiking, and fishing.”

(Page 5, City of Whitefish Climate Action Plan, April 2018)

Starting on the next page is a sample template for a city resolution supporting the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act. The City may wish to incorporate some of the reasons stated in the Climate Action Plan or Mayor’s Resolution to emphasize our local concerns.

**Draft A RESOLUTION BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WHITEFISH TO ENDORSE
THE ENERGY INNOVATION AND CARBON DIVIDEND ACT**

WHEREAS, the City of Whitefish adopted a climate action plan in April of 2018 as a foundation to make the transition to a clean energy economy and improve local resilience to climate change impacts.

WHEREAS, the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019, H.R. 763, is consistent with the goals of the City of Whitefish Climate Action Plan; and

WHEREAS, an Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change issued a special report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels in October 2018 warning that global warming is likely to reach 1.5°C between 2030 and 2052 if it continues to increase at the current rate; and

WHEREAS, the United Nations climate science body said in a monumental climate report that we have only 12 years left to make massive and unprecedented changes to global energy infrastructure to limit global warming to moderate levels; and

WHEREAS, the United States government released its Fourth Annual Climate Assessment in November 2018 reporting that the impacts of climate change are already being felt in communities across the country, and that more frequent and intense extreme weather and climate-related events, as well as changes in average climate conditions, are expected to continue to damage infrastructure, ecosystems, and social systems that provide essential benefits to communities; and

WHEREAS, conservative estimates by the world's climate scientists state that to achieve climate stabilization and avoid cataclysmic climate change, emissions of greenhouse gases (GHGs) must be brought to 80-95% below 1990 levels by 2050; and

WHEREAS, presently the environmental, health, and social costs of carbon emissions are not included in prices paid for fossil fuels, but rather these externalized costs are borne directly and indirectly by all Americans and global citizens; and

WHEREAS, to begin to correct this market failure, Congress can enact the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act to assess a national carbon fee on fossil fuels based on the amount of CO₂ the fuel will emit when burned and allocate the collected proceeds to all U.S. Households in equal shares in the form of a monthly dividend; and

WHEREAS, for efficient administration, the fossil fuels fee can be applied once, as far upstream in the economy as practical, or at the port of entry into the United States; and

WHEREAS, as stated in the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019, H.R. 763, a national, revenue-neutral carbon fee starting at a relatively low rate of \$15 per ton of CO₂ equivalent emissions and resulting in equal charges per ton of CO₂ equivalent emissions potential in each type of fuel or greenhouse gas should be assessed to begin to lower what are now dangerously high CO₂ emissions. The yearly increase in carbon fees including other greenhouse gases, shall be at least \$10 per ton of CO₂ equivalent each year, with the Department of Energy determining whether an increase larger than \$10 per ton per year is needed to achieve program goals; and

WHEREAS, the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019, H.R. 763, specifies that, in order to protect low and middle income citizens from the economic impact of rising prices due to the carbon

fee, equal monthly per-person dividend payments shall be made to all American households (½ payment per child under 19 years old) each month from the fossil fuel fees collected. The total value of all monthly dividend payments shall represent 100% of the net carbon fees collected per month; and

WHEREAS, the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019, H.R. 763, encourages market-driven innovation of clean energy technologies and market efficiencies which will reduce harmful pollution and leave a healthier, more stable, and more prosperous nation for future generations; and

WHEREAS, the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019, H.R. 763, will, after 12 years, lead to a decrease in America’s CO2 emissions of 40 percent and an increase in national employment of 2.1 million jobs; and

WHEREAS, border adjustments - carbon content-based tariffs on products imported from countries without comparable carbon pricing, and refunds to our exporters of carbon fees paid - can maintain the competitiveness of U.S. businesses in global markets; and

WHEREAS, a national carbon fee can be implemented quickly and efficiently, and will respond to the urgency of the climate crisis because the federal government already has in place mechanisms, such as the Internal Revenue Service, needed to implement and enforce the fee, and already collects fees from fossil fuel producers and importers; and

WHEREAS, A national revenue-neutral carbon fee would make the United States a leader in mitigating climate change and in the clean energy technologies of the 21st century and would provide incentive to other countries to enact similar carbon fees, reducing global CO2 emissions without the need for complex international agreements, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT:

RESOLVED, that the City of Whitefish, MT urges the United States Congress to enact without delay the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019, H.R. 763, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Manager or City Clerk, no later than 30 days after passage of this Resolution, shall transmit copies of this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United States, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to the Majority Leader of the Senate, to each U.S. Senator and Representative from the State of Montana in the Congress of the United States, and to nearby city and county governments urging that they pass similar resolutions.

PASSED AND ADOPTED as a resolution of the City Council of the City of Whitefish, State of Montana at its regularly scheduled meeting held on _____, 2019.

_____, Mayor
City of _____

_____, City Clerk

Support of the City of Whitefish Climate Action Plan Goals



“Drafted by a mayor-appointed committee with extensive public involvement, this plan establishes the foundation for Whitefish to make the transition to a clean energy economy and improve local resilience to climate change impacts.”
(Pg. 5 City of Whitefish Climate Action Plan)

The City of Whitefish Climate Action Plan dated April of 2018 has goals which align with the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act. Some of these are:

- “Become carbon neutral by 2050 by ending reliance on fossil fuels and increasing carbon storage” (pg. 6)
- “Shift to clean energy” (pg. 6), and “BE-2 Develop and encourage use of renewable energy sources” (pg. 24)
- “Reduce consumption of carbon intensive goods and services” (pg. 7)
- “BE-3 Encourage building energy efficiency and conservation in the community” (pg. 24)

Reaching these goals will be greatly aided by a national price on carbon dioxide pollution. This will speed innovation to provide low-cost solutions for clean energy. Carbon-intensive goods and services will be replaced by environmentally-friendly alternatives. And, by returning all pollution fees collected to all households equally our citizens will have the spending capacity to make improvements to our housing stock for energy efficiency.

Montana Depends on the Outdoor Industry



Source: Outdoor Industry Association, <https://outdoorindustry.org/state/montana/>, 10-24-2019

Montana greatly depends on the outdoor industry. Without mitigation, the climate will change and further impact many of our recreation activities including:

- Skiing - Reduced snowpack and shorter ski seasons
- Hiking - Worsening air quality due to incidence of increased wildfire smoke
- Birding - Continued reduced bird populations
- Hunting - Stress and migration of game from changing habitat
- Angling - Warming lakes and streams negatively affecting native fish populations

According to the Outdoor Industry Association, 81% of Montana residents participate in outdoor recreation each year. And, Montana generates \$7.1 billion in consumer spending annually. This exceeds the value of statewide agricultural crop, livestock, and poultry products sold (\$4.3 billion). The outdoor industry supports 71,000 direct jobs in Montana.

Montana's outdoor playground attracts a great number of tourists. Glacier National Park visitation has hovered around the 3 million mark in recent years as shown on the National Parks statistics website. Northwest Montana took in 34% of all nonresident spending. Flathead County out-of-state visitors spent \$530 million in 2018 according to the University of Montana's Institute for Tourism and Recreation Research.

The outdoor industry is stepping up to the call for climate action and supporting legislation to mitigate climate change. See Appendix C – Outdoor Industry Endorsements of H.R.763 for a list of outdoor-related businesses and athletes who support the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act.

About Citizens' Climate Lobby

Solving the Climate Challenge



Citizens' Climate Lobby is a non-profit, nonpartisan, grassroots advocacy organization focused on national policies to address climate change.

Our consistently respectful, nonpartisan approach to climate education is designed to create a broad, sustainable foundation for climate action across all geographic regions and political inclinations. By building upon shared values rather than partisan divides, and empowering our supporters to work in keeping with the concerns of their local communities, we work towards the adoption of fair, effective, and sustainable climate change solutions.

To generate the political will necessary for passage of the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act we train and support volunteers to build relationships with elected officials, the media and their local community. As of March 11, 2020:

- Supporters in the United States: 180,378
- Supporters in Montana: 2,786
- Local Chapters in the United States: 470
- Local Chapters in Montana: 5 (Bozeman, Billings, Flathead Valley, Helena and Missoula)

For more information see our national website: <https://citizensclimatelobby.org/> or contact Robin Paone (Whitefish, MT) at 314-606-6175, Robin.L.Paone@gmail.com .

APPENDIX A - Economists Letter Supporting Carbon Fee and Dividend

3554 U.S. Economists

- 4 Former Chairs of the Federal Reserve (All)
- 27 Nobel Laureate Economists
- 15 Former Chairs of the Council of Economic Advisers
- 2 Former Secretaries of the U.S. Department of Treasury



In the largest public statement in history, on January of 2019 thousands of United States economists signed a letter recommending carbon fee and dividend policy which is the foundation of The Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act. This letter was published in the Wall Street Journal. There are now over 4000 economist who have signed this letter.

For more information see the published statement in the Wall Street Journal here:
<https://www.wsj.com/articles/economists-statement-on-carbon-dividends-11547682910>

The list of Montana economists signing this letter are below:

- D. Mark Anderson, Montana State University
- Mariana Carrera, Montana State University
- Anja Gruber, Montana State University
- Andrew J. Hill, Montana State University
- Francis J. Kerins, Jr., Montana State University
- Jerome R. Patton, Montana State University
- Richard Ready, Montana State University
- Vincent H. Smith, Montana State University
- Christiana Stoddard, Montana State University
- Douglas J. Young, Montana State University
- Jeff Bookwalter, University of Montana
- Douglas Dalenberg, University of Montana
- Amanda E. Dawsey, University of Montana
- Thomas M. Power, University of Montana
- Robert Sonora, University of Montana

APPENDIX B – Montana Endorsements

Endorsements as of 3-11-2020.

Endorsement of Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act

Endorsed by the following businesses and organizations

Angela's Piazza: Women's Drop In, Billings
Bridger Bowl Ski Area, Billings
Crosscut Mountain Sports Center, Bozeman
KERBspace, Bozeman
Montana Angler Fly Fishing Inc, Bozeman
Montana Ski Area Association, Red Lodge
Montana Trout Unlimited, Missoula
No Bad Dogs, Missoula
Polar Bears International, Bozeman
Round House Sports Center, Bozeman

Endorsed by the following individuals

Andrew Newell, U.S. Olympic and World Cup Skier, Bozeman
Chris Mehl, Mayor, City of Bozeman
Erich Pessl, MD, Physician, Bozeman
Jonathan Wiesel, Principal of Nordic Group International, Bozeman
Lowell Bailey, World Champion and 4x Olympic Biathlete, Bozeman
Richard Parks, owner Park's Fly Shop, Gardiner
Twila Moon, Research Scientist, Big Sky

Endorsement of Carbon Fee and Dividend

Signed by the following businesses and organizations

American Independent Business Alliance (AMIBA), Bozeman
Angela's Piazza: Women's Drop-In Center, Billings
Droptrip, Bozeman
OnSite Energy Inc., Bozeman

Endorsement of Climate Action

Signed by the following businesses and organizations

High Plains Architects, Billings
OnSite Energy Inc., Bozeman
Park's Fly Shop, Gardiner

APPENDIX C – Outdoor Industry Endorsements of H.R. 763

*Non-profits

National/International Organizations:

Polar Bears International*
Protect our Winters*
Winter Wildlands Alliance*
Conservatives for Responsible Stewardship*
Shane McConkey Foundation*

Ski Associations:

National Ski Areas Association
Colorado Ski Country USA
Pacific Northwest Ski Areas Association
Ski New Mexico
Ski Utah
Ski California
Montana Ski Area Association

Ski Resorts:

Alterra Mountain Company (CA,CO,UT,VT,MI)
Boreal (CA)
Homewood Mountain Resort (CA)
Soda Springs (CA)
Squaw Valley/Alpine Meadows (CA)
Arapahoe Basin (CO)
Aspen Highlands (CO)
Aspen Mountain (CO)
Buttermilk (CO)
Snowmass (CO)
Telluride (CO)
Schweitzer (ID)
Crystal Mountain (MI)
Taos Ski Valley (NM)
Mount Hood Meadows (OR)
Mount Hood Ski Bowl (OR)
Summit Ski Area (OR)
Timberline Lodge (OR)
Cooper Spur Mountain (OR)
Solitude Mountain (UT)
Bridger Bowl Ski Area (MT)*
Sugarbush Resort (VT)

Outdoor Businesses:

Precision Boatworks (AK)
Alaska Longline Fishermen's Association (AK)*
Alaskan Sailing Expeditions LLC (AK)
Wildland Trekking Co LLC (AZ)
California Fly Fisher Magazine (CA)
EcoRing (CA)*
Pacos Bike and Ski (CA)
Alpenglow Sports (CA)
The Backcountry (CA)
Jones Snowboards (CA)
Tahoe Waterman (CA)
Stoke Certified (CA)
Woodward at Tahoe (CA)
BikePartners: Folding Bike Shop (CA)
Yampa Valley Outdoor Products (CO)
Boulder Nordic Sport (CO)
22 Designs (ID)
The Bikery, Inc (FL)
Bivouac (MI)
Montana Angler Fly Fishing Inc (MT)
Round House Sports Center (MT)
Bicycle Sport Shop (TX)
Discrete Clothing (UT)
Utah Mountain Adventures, Inc (UT)
Wild Birds Unlimited (UT)
Bluebird Snow (VA)
Burton (VT)
Endurance Enterprises Inc. (WI)
Bigtruck (CA)

Audubon Chapters:

Peace River Audubon Society (FL)*
Iowa Audubon (IA)*
Jayhawk Audubon Society (KS)*
Audubon Maryland-DC Chapter (MD)*
Grand Rapids Audubon Club (MI)*
Lehigh Valley Audubon Society (PA)*
Great Salt Lake Audubon (UT)*
Fond du Lac County Audubon (WI)*

Trout Unlimited Chapters:

Montana Trout Unlimited (MT)*
New York State Council of Trout Unlimited (NY)*
Mid Hudson Trout Unlimited (NY)*

Other Non-profit Groups:

Sitka Conservation Society (AK)*
California River Watch (CA)*
Lake Tahoe Waterman Association (CA)*
Shane McConkey Foundation (CA)*
Emerald Coastkeepers (FL)*
Environmental Defenders of McHenry County (IL)*
Conservation Agreement Fund (MD)*
Atlantic Salmon Federation (ME)*
Cool Planet (MN)*
Scenic Hudson (NY)*
Conserve Southwest Utah (UT)*
Wasatch Backcountry Alliance (UT)*
Craftsbury Outdoor Center (VT)*

Alpine Skiers and Snowboarders:

Angel Collinson (Big mountain skier)
John Collinson (Big mountain skier)
Julian Carr (Big mountain skier)
Julia Mancuso (Olympic alpine skier, 2014 Bronze, 2010 Silver x 2, 2006 Gold)
Anik Demers-Wild (X-games skier cross)
Tamara McKinney (U.S. Olympic and World Cup skier – Gold Medalist)
Ralph Backstrom (Professional snowboarder)

Triathletes:

Andrew Talansky

Rock Climbers:

Alex Honnold
Tommy Caldwell

U.S. Olympic Cross Country Skiers:

Jessie Diggins (2018 Gold)
Kikkan Randall (2018 Gold)
Lowell Bailey (World Champion)
Sadie Bjornsen
Rosie Brennan
Timothy Burke
Andrew Johnson
Julia Kern
Andrew Newell
Liz Stephen
Ida Sargent
August Schumacher
Peter Vordenberg (and coach)
Caitlin Gregg
Brian Gregg
Hannah Dreissigacker
Susan Dunklee
Simi Hamilton

Other Prominent Nordic:

Adam Martin
Elite Cross Country Skier

Peter Breu, President
NH Nordic Coaches Association

Jonathan Wiesel, President
Nordic Group International

Danny Kuzio, Managing Editor
Cross Country Skier Magazine

Ben Popp, Executive Director
American Birkebeiner Ski Foundation

APPENDIX D – Policy Assessments

Citizens' Climate Lobby has references for several independent studies which have shown the effectiveness and ease of implementation of The Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act. Below are two studies which provide an overall assessment of the policy.

The Columbia University Economists Study



In November of 2019 a group of five economists from Columbia University's Center on Global Energy Policy published "An Assessment of the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act." This study offers an up-to-date, independent assessment of the Energy Innovation Act's impacts on emissions, air pollution, and Americans' finances.

"We're encouraged that economists from Columbia's prestigious Center on Global Energy Policy have assessed this policy and found it to have such positive impacts," said Dr. Danny Richter, CCL's Vice President of Government Affairs. "We hope that their findings inspire more members of Congress to join the 69 representatives who already support this bill."

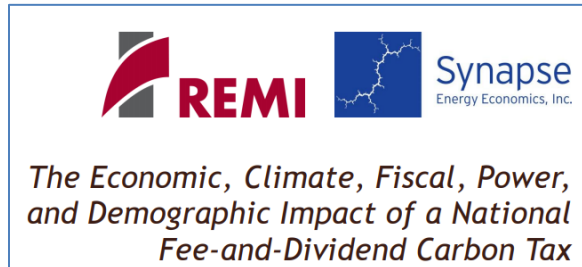
The study's key findings include:

- **Substantial emissions reductions.** The authors conservatively estimate the Energy Innovation Act to drive 36% to 38% emissions reductions by 2030. These "exceed the U.S. commitments to the Paris Agreement over this period," the authors state.
- **Cleaner air.** The study finds that, under the Energy Innovation Act, sulfur dioxide and mercury emissions from the power sector will decline by more than 95%, and nitrous oxide emissions will decline by about 75% by 2030. The authors point out, "As lower-income and minority households suffer disproportionately from the impact of air pollutants, they are likely to benefit disproportionately from pollution mitigation."
- **Financial benefits.** The Energy Innovation Act will generate "substantial revenue" that is allocated to Americans as a carbon dividend each month. The authors estimate that in the first year of the policy, an American adult will receive \$250-\$260 total, and that would rise to \$1,410-\$1,470 by 2030. The study explains, "On average, the carbon dividend payments are comparable to the changes in energy expenditures" caused by the policy. Specifically, "average low- and middle-income households receive more in dividends than they pay in increased economy-wide prices."

The assessment also reiterates that "economists almost universally support putting a price on carbon" because it is "a uniquely cost-effective policy tool."

The study is available online here: <https://energypolicy.columbia.edu/research/report/assessment-energy-innovation-and-carbon-dividend-act>

The REMI Study



Citizens' Climate Lobby wanted to find out how well a carbon fee and dividend would work, so in 2014, they hired an independent modeling firm – Regional Economic Models Inc. (REMI) – to do just that. The REMI study examined the effects of a carbon fee starting at \$10 per metric ton of CO₂ and going up \$10 a year for 20 years, with all proceeds returned to households.

This is a little less ambitious than the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act, but is a fair representation of the type of policy proposed in the bill.

In addition to the national economy, emissions, and changes in energy industries, the REMI study looked at economic impacts across the U.S. The study then compared these results to a business-as-usual case where there is no price on carbon.

Here are the results, compared to business as usual:

- CO₂ emissions decline by 33 percent after 10 years and 52 percent after 20 years. That's because of strong, steady market-driven changes in the ways we make and consume energy.
- National employment increases by 2.1 million jobs after 10 years, and 2.8 million after 20 years. These are jobs that wouldn't happen without a carbon fee!
- Reduced air pollution saves 13,000 lives annually after 10 years, with a cumulative 227,000 American lives saved over 20 years.
- Gross Domestic Product (GDP) increases by \$70 to \$85 billion from 2020 on, with a cumulative increase of \$1.4 trillion after 20 years.

The take-home message is that a plan like the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act will strengthen the economy and creates jobs while slashing CO₂ emissions and improving Americans' health.

A summary of the study is available online here:

<https://static.smallworldlabs.com/cclobby/content/resources/remi/REMI-National-SUMMARY.pdf>

The full study is here: <https://static.smallworldlabs.com/cclobby/content/resources/remi/The-Economic-Climate-Fiscal-Power-and-Demographic-Impact-of-a-National-Fee-and-Dividend-Carbon-Tax-5.25.18.pdf>