

Why Carbon Fee & Dividend?



PEC Conference, August 15, 2021
Linda Racine, Curtis Baysinger, Tom Matte
on behalf of
Presbyterians for Carbon Dividends

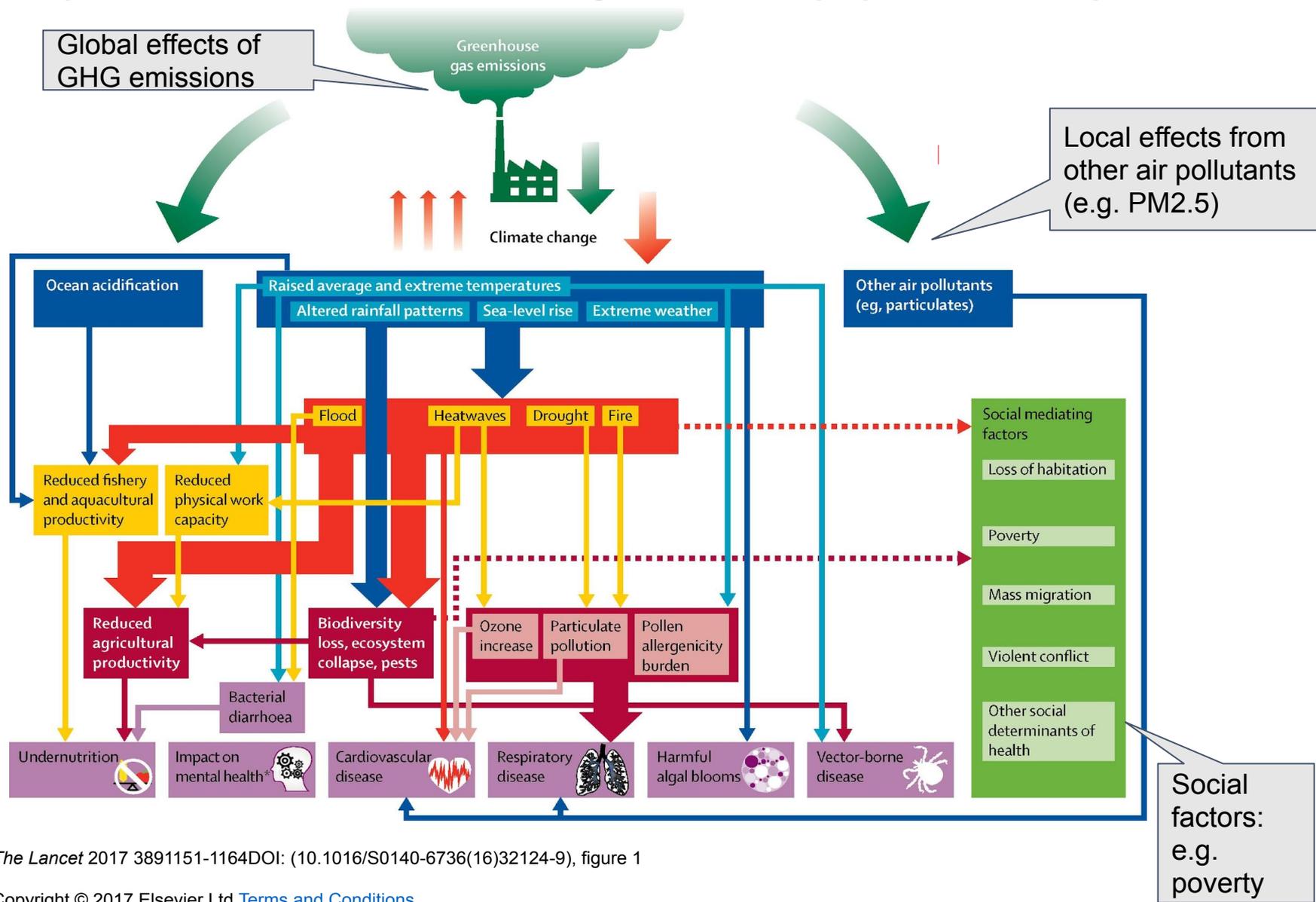
Our Agenda

- A brief overview of the climate crisis--the scope and urgency of the problem
- An overview of various policy approaches along with strengths and drawbacks with each.
- Why a carbon fee & dividend should be a key part of any legislative package.
- What you can do--actions individuals, churches, and Presbyteries can take.



Two linked global health crises: Climate change and air pollution

Climate change and GHG emissions impact health through many pathways



The Lancet 2017 3891151-1164DOI: (10.1016/S0140-6736(16)32124-9), figure 1

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Harm from head to toe in young and old

Air pollution has adverse effects on health

Respiratory system

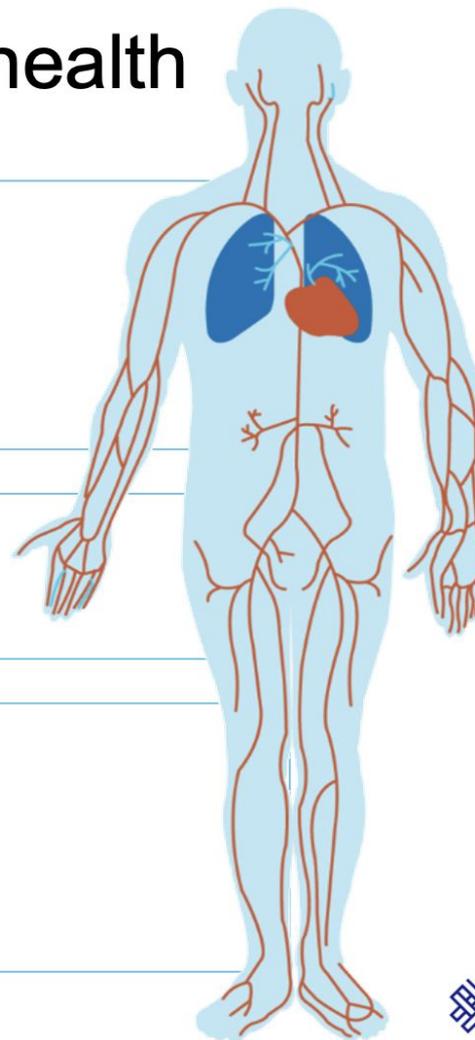
- Airway irritation (coughing, wheezing), inflammation
- Asthma, COPD, lung cancer
- Acute lower respiratory infection and pneumonia
- Decreased lung function and lung growth

Cardiovascular system

- Exacerbation of heart disease
- Heart attacks, strokes

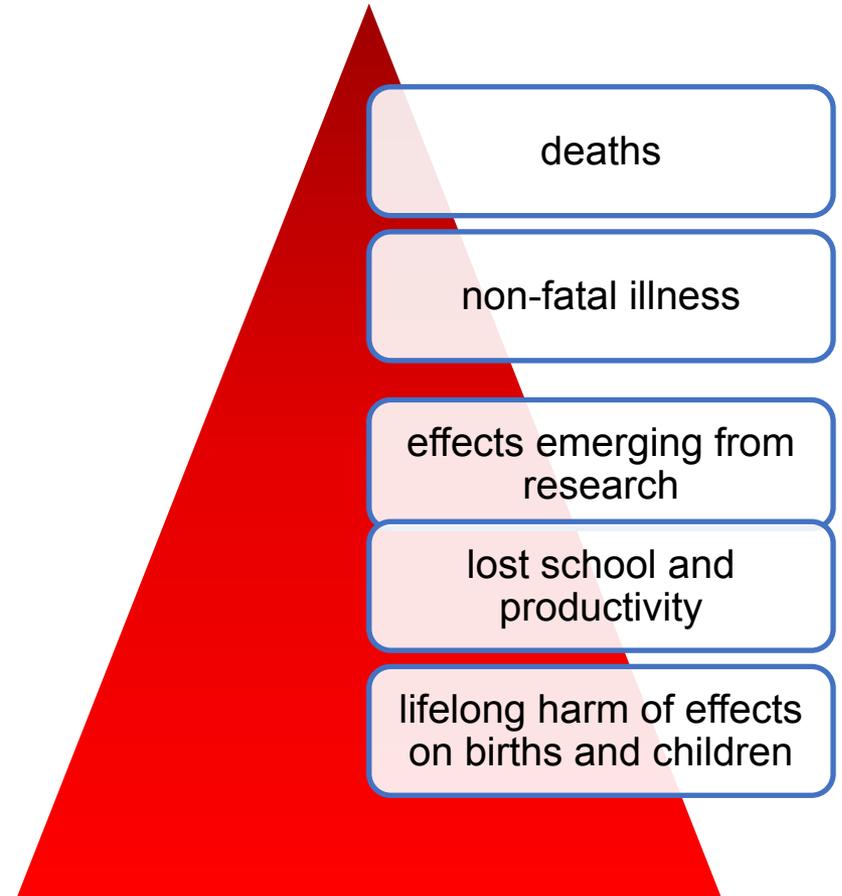
Other

- Cataracts
- Low birth weight
- Nasopharyngeal and laryngeal cancer
- Decreased cognitive ability



Health impacts of air pollution and heat exposure: United States

- Air pollution causes ~ 60000 deaths/year*
- High temperature causes ~ 2400 deaths/year*
- Estimates vary and science is evolving
- Deaths are the tip of the iceberg



* [Global Burden of Disease Collaborative Network. Global Burden of Disease Study 2019 \(GBD 2019\) Results. Seattle, United States: Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation \(IHME\), 2020.](#)

Health impacts of heat exposure: New York City - some are far more vulnerable

NYC neighborhoods at greatest risk:

Social disadvantage

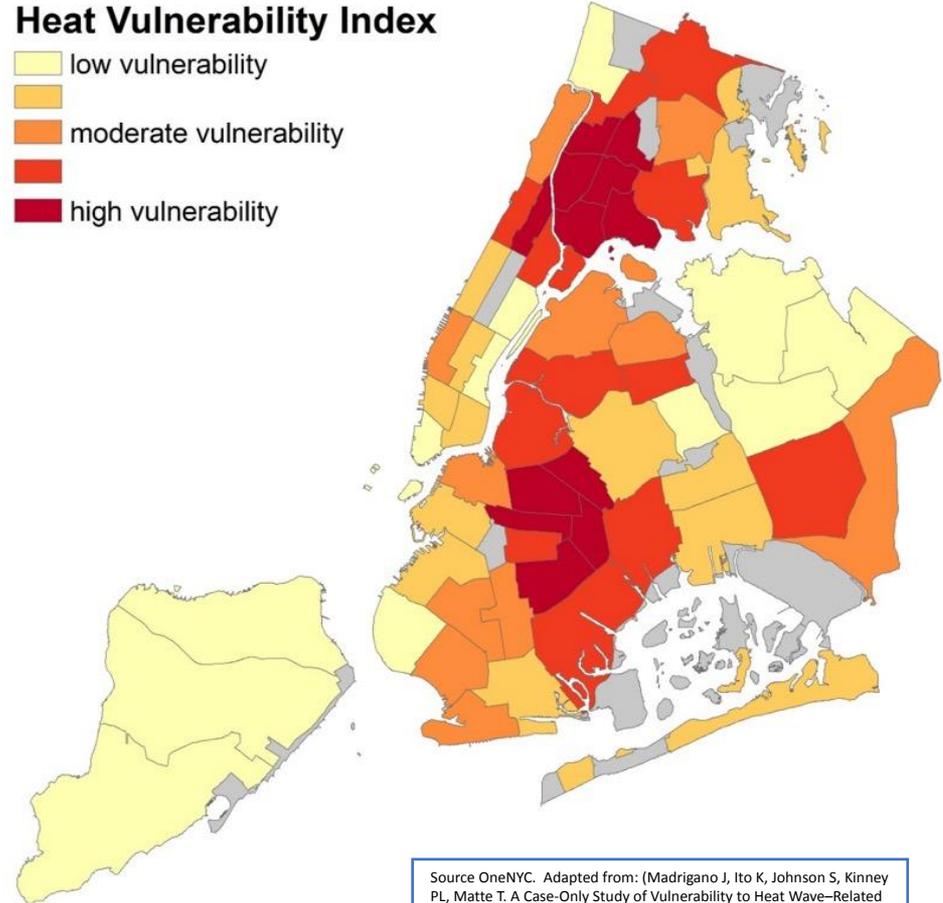
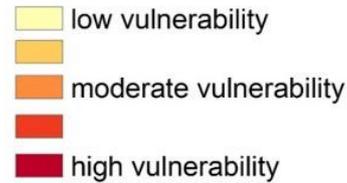
- Receiving public assistance (%)
- Non-Hispanic, black population (%)

Physical environment

- Higher surface temp
- Less vegetative cover

Household risk factors include energy insecurity and lack of access to air conditioning

Heat Vulnerability Index



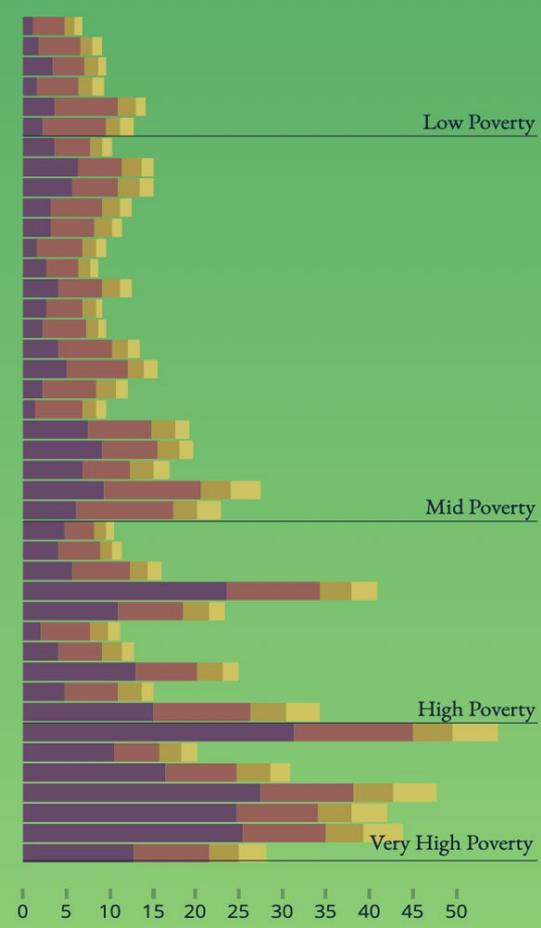
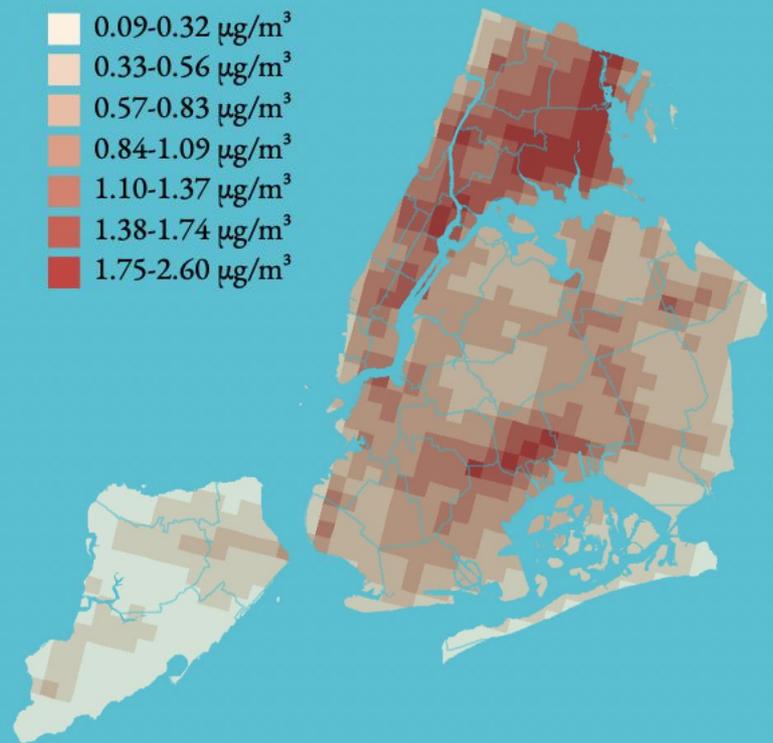
Source OneNYC. Adapted from: (Madrigano J, Ito K, Johnson S, Kinney PL, Matte T. A Case-Only Study of Vulnerability to Heat Wave-Related Mortality in New York City (2000–2011). *Environmental Health Perspectives*. 2015;123(7):672-678. doi:10.1289/ehp.1408178.).

Health impacts of air pollution: NYC.

Front line communities include those most vulnerable to truck and bus pollution

PM2.5 levels from trucks and buses are **70% higher** in high poverty neighborhoods relative to low poverty neighborhoods

- 0.09-0.32 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$
- 0.33-0.56 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$
- 0.57-0.83 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$
- 0.84-1.09 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$
- 1.10-1.37 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$
- 1.38-1.74 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$
- 1.75-2.60 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$



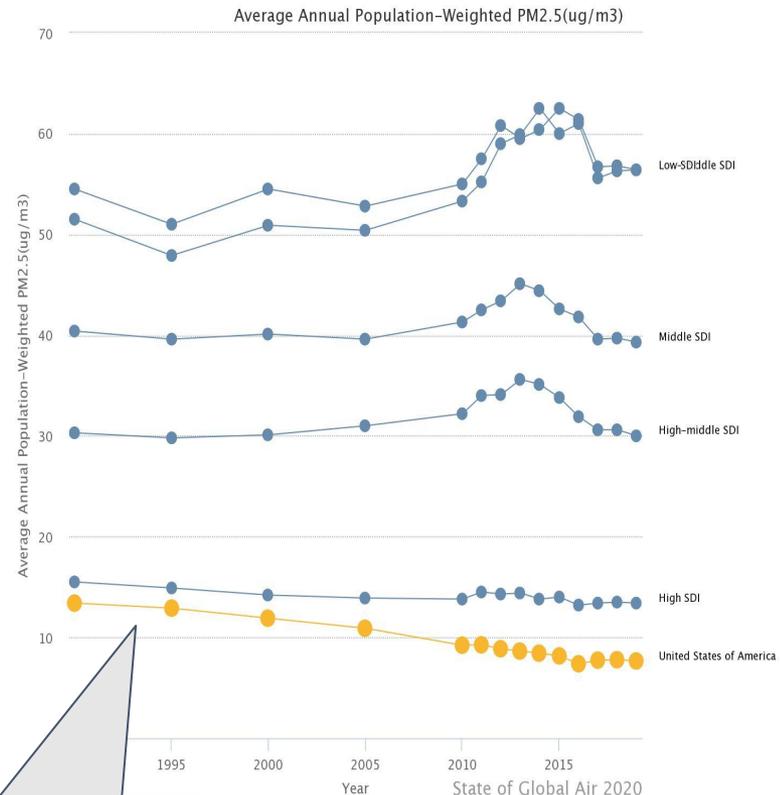
PM2.5-attributed health events from traffic (per 100k residents)

Health impacts of air pollution and heat exposure: Global

- **Air pollution:** ~ 6.7 million deaths
- ~ 6.3 million of these in low-middle-income countries where air is much more polluted
- Air pollution death rate in least developed countries > 5x greater than US rate
- **Heat:** ~300,000 deaths/year
- >95% in poorest countries
- The effects of drought, food insecurity, and conflict are greatest in poorest parts of the world

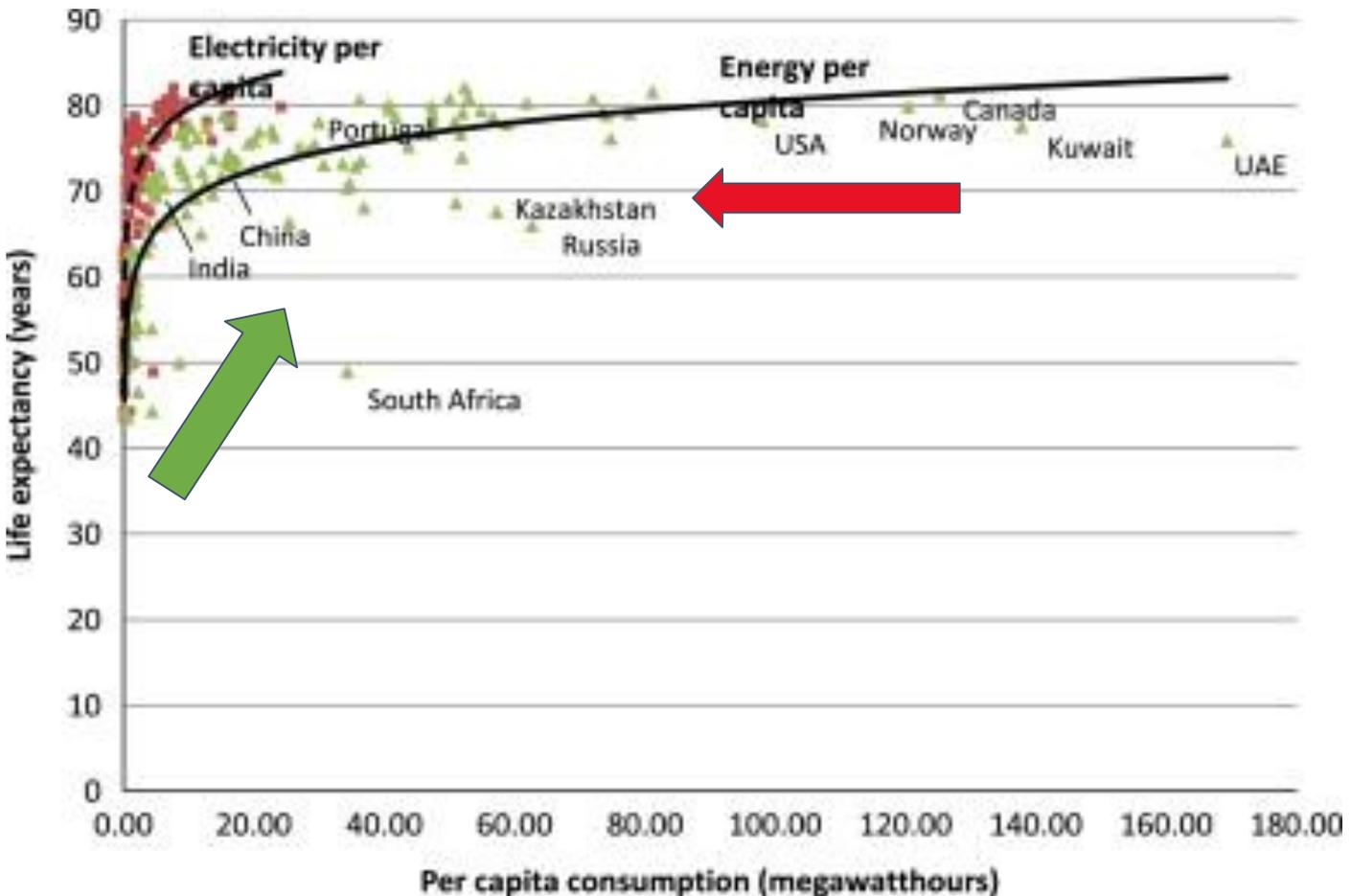
PM_{2.5}
low-middle
income
countries

Growing air pollution inequality

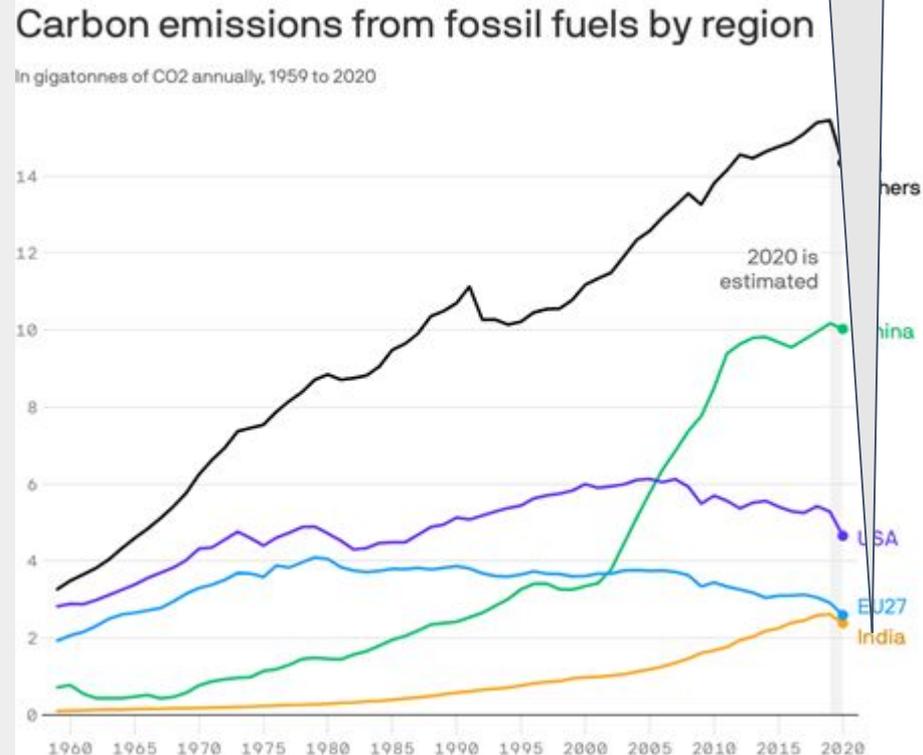


PM_{2.5} US, declining from clean air regulations

Energy consumption supports health – up to a point. It needs to shrink here and grow in developing countries.



As energy use grows where most needed, the carbon intensity of energy production must go down rapidly everywhere

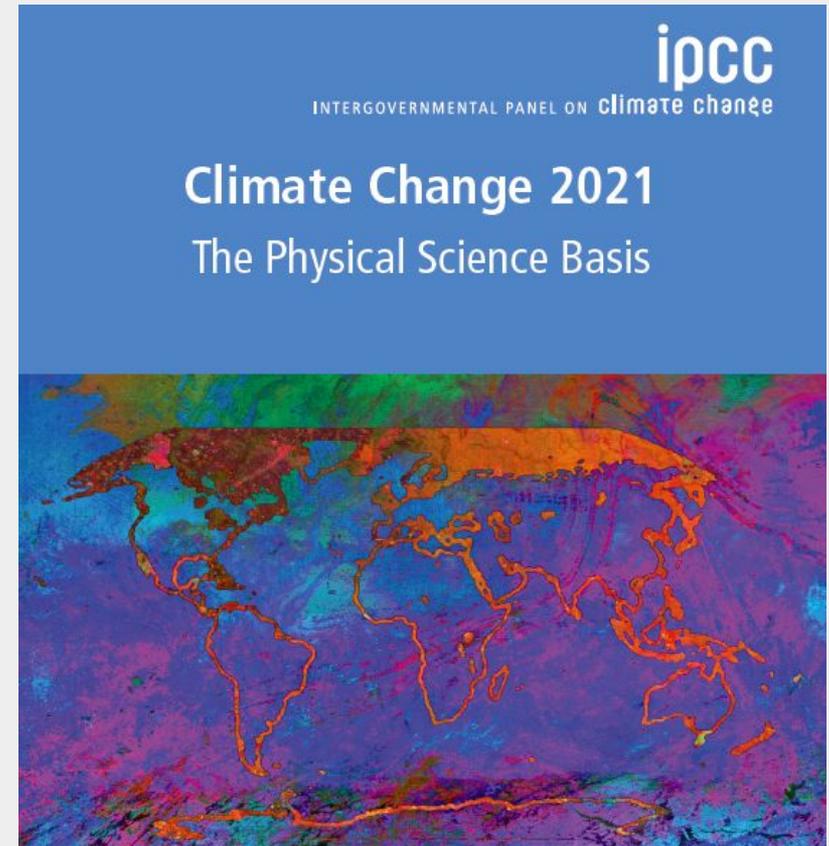


USA 14.5% of global in 2019

Data: Global Carbon Project; Chart: Connor Rothschild/Axios

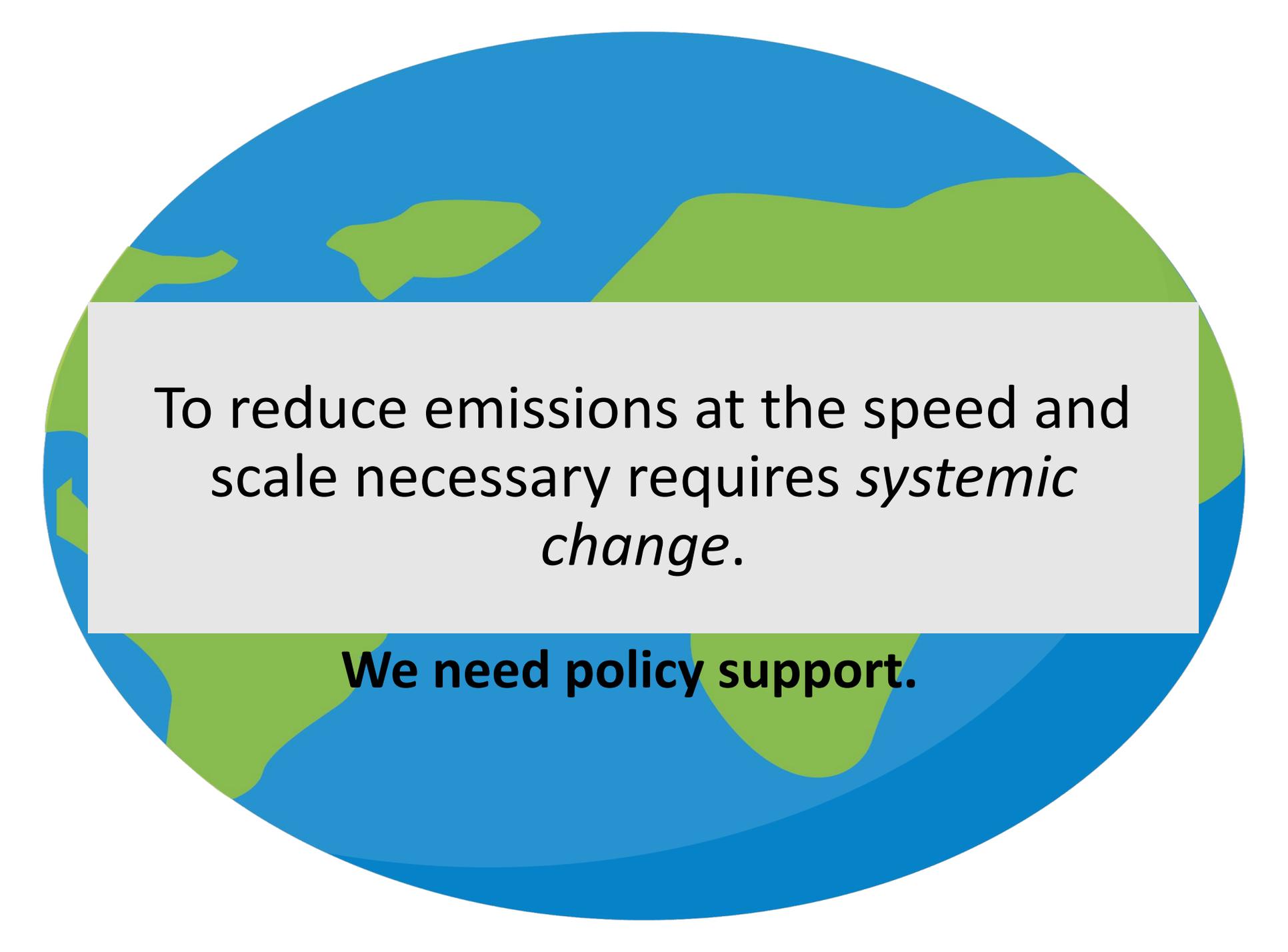
Two recent reports physical science realities:

- It is unequivocal that human influence has warmed the atmosphere, ocean and land.
- The scale of recent changes are unprecedented over many centuries to many thousands of years.
- Climate change is already affecting every inhabited region across the globe.
- How much we limit future warming depends not only on when we get to net zero emissions, but how fast we reduce emissions in the near term.
- Reducing energy consumption and demand in high-income countries will increase chances of success and limit the need for solutions that are unproven and have other risks.



Global warming of 1.5°C

An IPCC Special Report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways, in the context of strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change, sustainable development, and efforts to eradicate poverty

A stylized graphic of the Earth, showing blue oceans and green continents, centered in the background. A white rectangular box is overlaid on the center of the Earth, containing text.

To reduce emissions at the speed and scale necessary requires *systemic change*.

We need policy support.

Solution Requirements:

- **Socially just**
- **Fast and evidence-based**
- **Global effects**





What can government do?

What can we do?

Generally, Government has 3 ways to change behavior

1. Investments/Spending

Research and development

Fund infrastructure projects

Incentives for desirable behavior

2. Laws - Congress

Rules, regulations - Agencies

3. Taxation:

Tax undesirable behavior

Investments / Spending

Research & Development

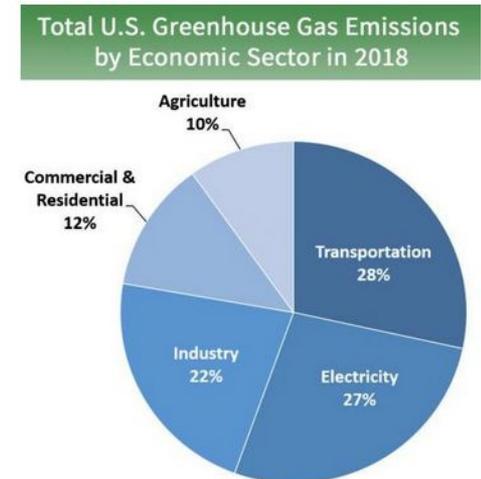
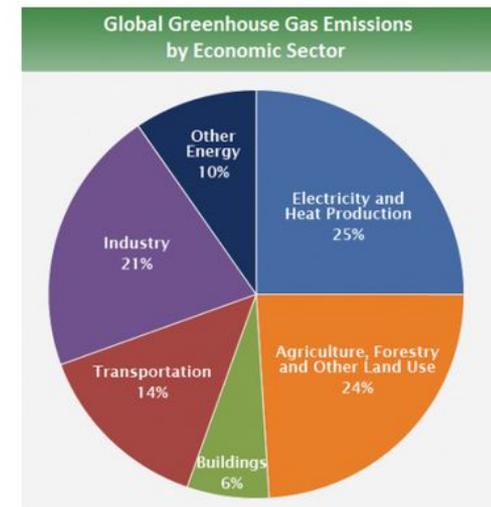
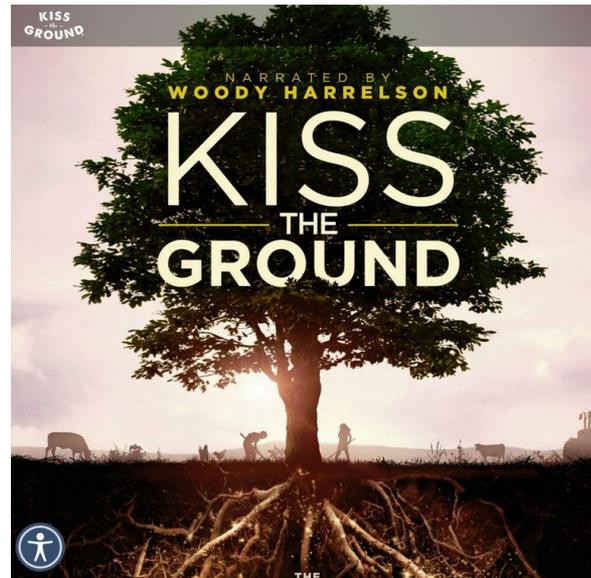
- Transportation decarbonization
- Energy storage
- Carbon capture
- Methane capture from agriculture



Investments/ Spending

Supporting Regenerative Agriculture

- Healthy soil
- Healthy people
- Healthy planet!



Investments / Spending

Infrastructure Support

- Monies for mass transit systems, electric vehicle plug-ins
- Grid infrastructure



Investments/ Spending

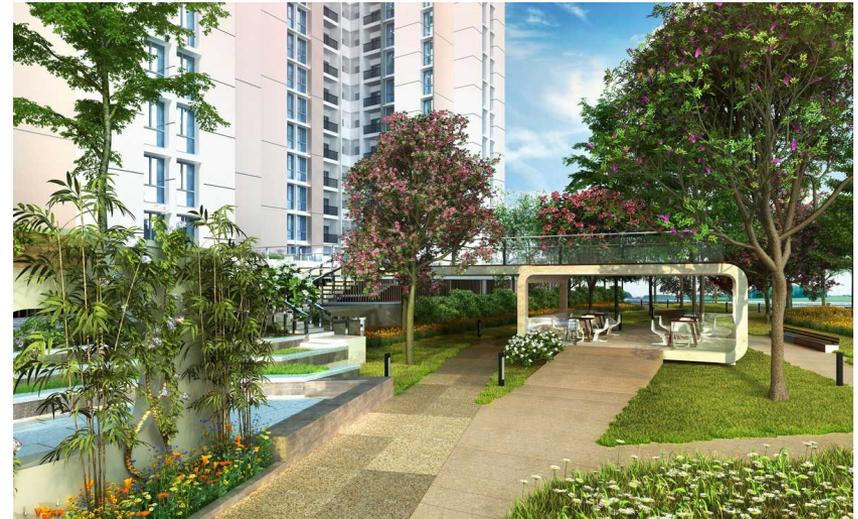
Front line Community Infrastructure Support



Resilience of coastal cities to combat to sea rise

Direct infrastructure hardening to minority communities

Plug oil wells and coal mines that leak methane

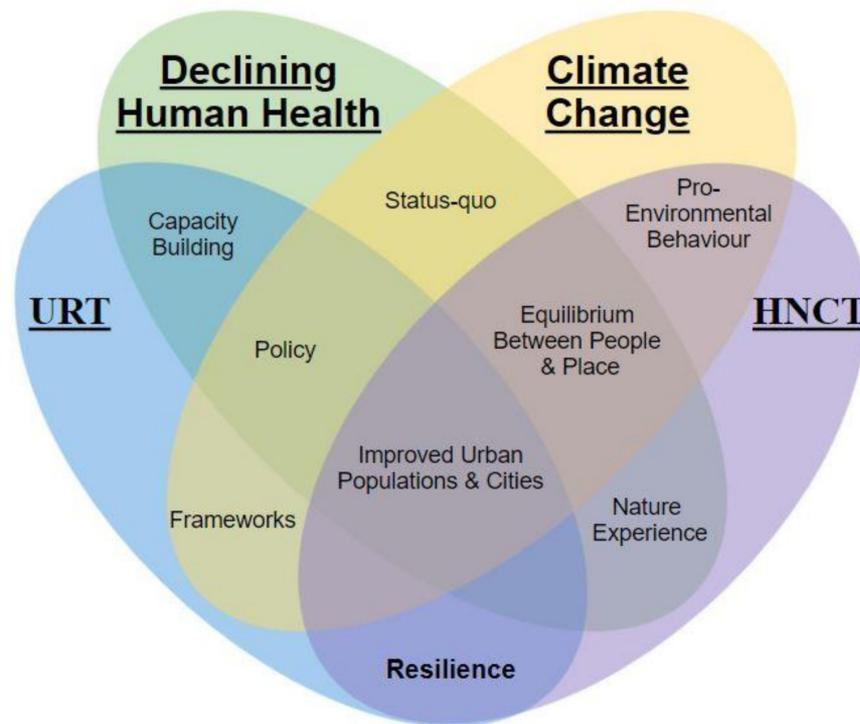


Human Infrastructure Support

Civilian Climate Corps

Improve health access minority communities

Access to clean water



The Benefits of Environmental Health

It's not only important to strive for optimal environmental health. It's also beneficial, both for individuals and for their surrounding communities. Some of the benefits are:

- Cleaner air quality
- Cleaner water
- Reduced hazardous waste
- Increased access to healthy foods
- Safer outdoor environments for adults and children
- Improved population health
- Improved health equity

Sources: American Public Health Association, Verywell Health, World Health Organization

Investments/ Spending



Incentives

-Tax credits for making your home or building more energy efficient

-Energy sources that emit no CO₂



Investments/Spending

Strengths:

- Government R&D funds new technologies that industry won't
- Levels playing field for vulnerable groups and communities
- Allows politicians to strike win-wins



Investments/Spending

Weaknesses:

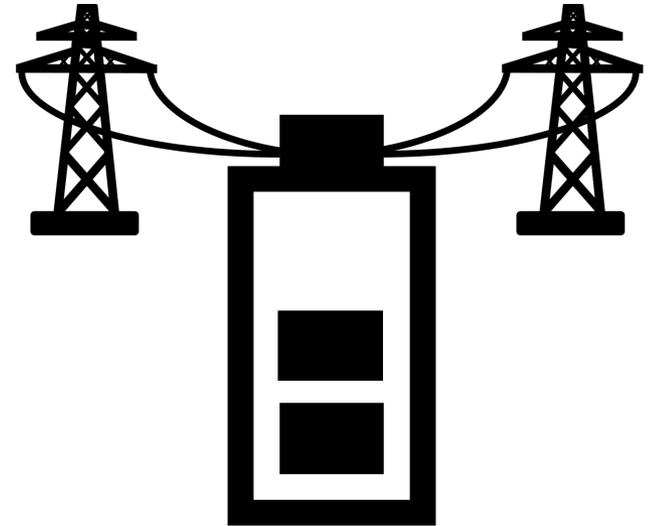
Many do not directly address CO₂ emissions

How do we fund them?

- Can have big price tags
- Can be difficult to gain bi-partisan support

Government not always good at choosing the path to follow

- Specifically which technologies to scale up



Laws/Regulations / Standards

Banning or controlling levels of certain pollutants -

Compliance with energy standards, e.g. Clean Energy Standards



Regulations

Strengths

- Target vulnerable populations
- Huge health care benefits
- End point is easy to measure



OVERVIEW OF THE CLEAN POWER PLAN *CUTTING CARBON POLLUTION FROM POWER PLANTS*

On August 3, President Obama and EPA announced the Clean Power Plan – a historic and important step in reducing carbon pollution from power plants that takes real action on climate change. Shaped by years of unprecedented outreach and public engagement, the final Clean Power Plan is fair, flexible and designed to strengthen the fast-growing trend toward cleaner and lower-polluting American energy. With strong but achievable standards for power plants, and customized goals for states to cut the carbon pollution that is driving climate change, the Clean Power Plan provides national consistency, accountability and a level playing field while reflecting each state's energy mix. It also shows the world that the United States is committed to leading global efforts to address climate change.

WHAT IS THE CLEAN POWER PLAN?

- The Clean Power Plan will reduce carbon pollution from power plants, the nation's largest source, while maintaining energy reliability and affordability. Also on August 3, EPA issued final Carbon Pollution Standards for new, modified, and reconstructed power plants, and proposed a Federal Plan and model rule to assist states in implementing the Clean Power Plan.
- These are the first-ever national standards that address carbon pollution from power plants.
- The Clean Power Plan cuts significant amounts of power plant carbon pollution and the pollutants that cause the soot and smog that harm health, while advancing clean energy innovation, development and deployment, and laying the foundation for the long-term strategy needed to tackle the threat of climate change. By providing states and utilities ample flexibility and the time needed to achieve these pollution cuts, the Clean Power Plan offers the power sector the ability to optimize pollution reductions while maintaining a reliable and affordable supply of electricity for ratepayers and businesses.
- Fossil fuels will continue to be a critical component of America's energy future. The Clean Power Plan simply makes sure that fossil fuel-fired power plants will operate more cleanly and efficiently, while expanding the capacity for zero- and low-emitting power sources.

Regulations

Weaknesses:

- Can take time to develop & implement
- Require enforcement, oversight (can be costly)
- Create great incentives for business to spend lots of money in Congress trying to warp the markets
- Vulnerable to:
 - Changes in administration
 - Legal challenges



OVERVIEW OF THE CLEAN POWER PLAN

CUTTING CARBON POLLUTION FROM POWER PLANTS

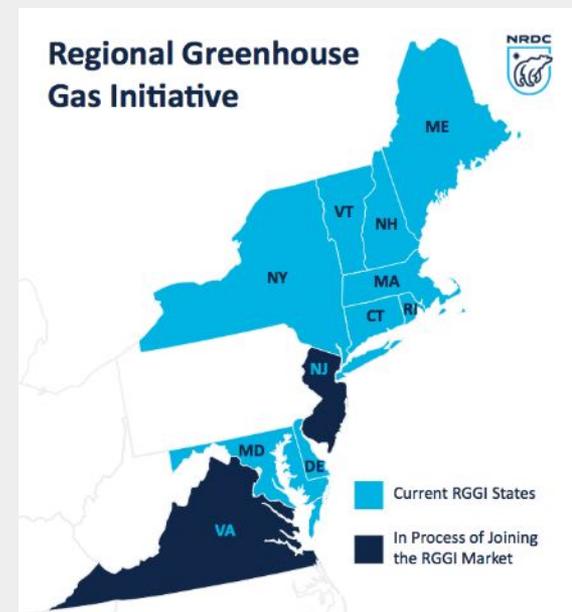
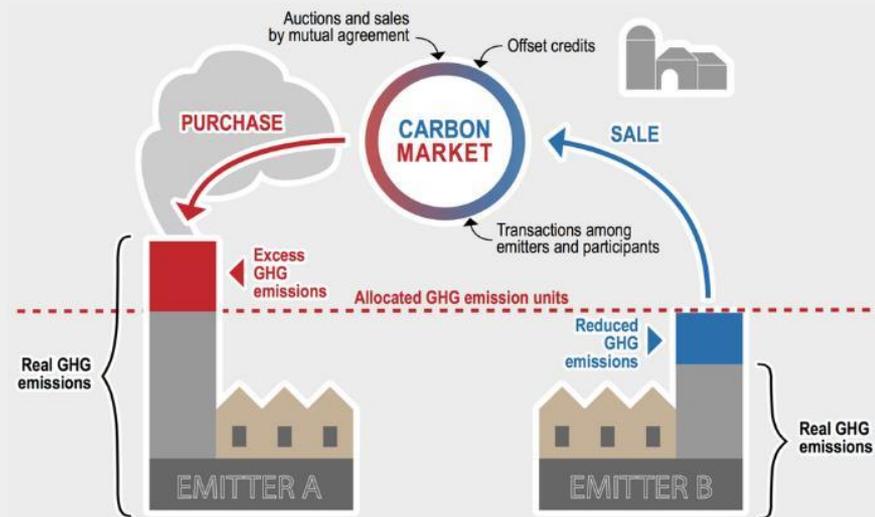
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Emissions Cap & Trade

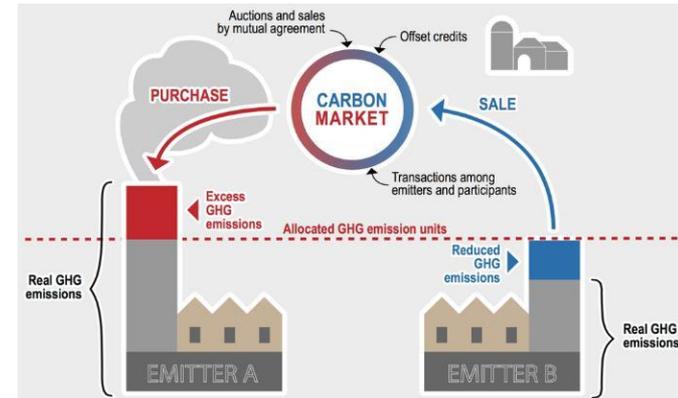
Emissions caps set, then governments award or auction allowances



Emissions Cap & Trade

Strengths

- Hides the tax from the public
- Easier political solution
- Theoretically, you know exactly much CO₂ you'll stop



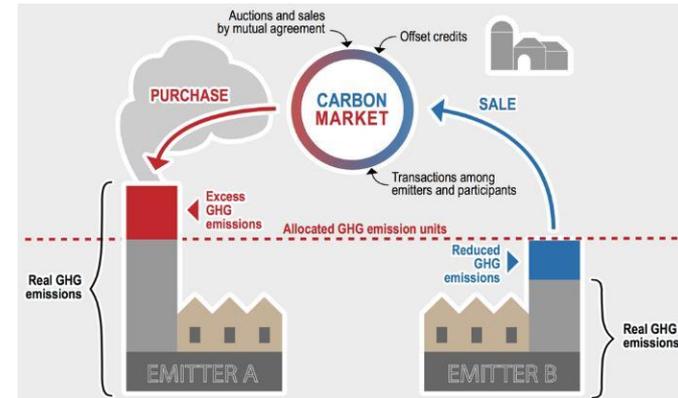
Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative



Emissions Cap & Trade

Challenges

- Complicated to set up and run
- Companies can “game the system”
 - Europe’s system has not reduced CO₂ as expected
- If not designed well, companies can continue to pollute in frontline and fenceline communities
- CO₂ knows no boundaries - International treaties hard to negotiate



Another strategy....

Implement a Carbon Fee

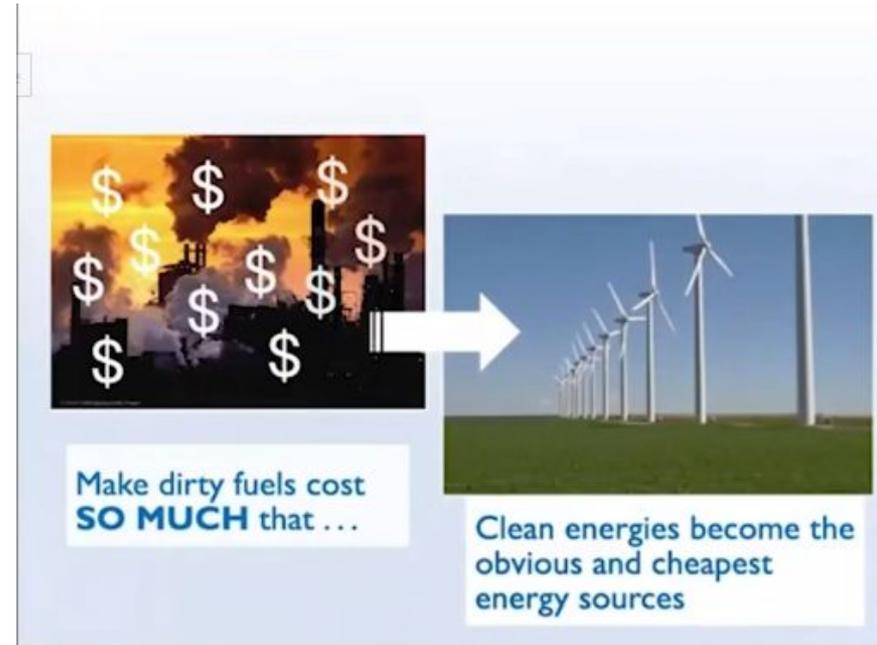
With:

- a Dividend
- a Carbon Border Adjustment

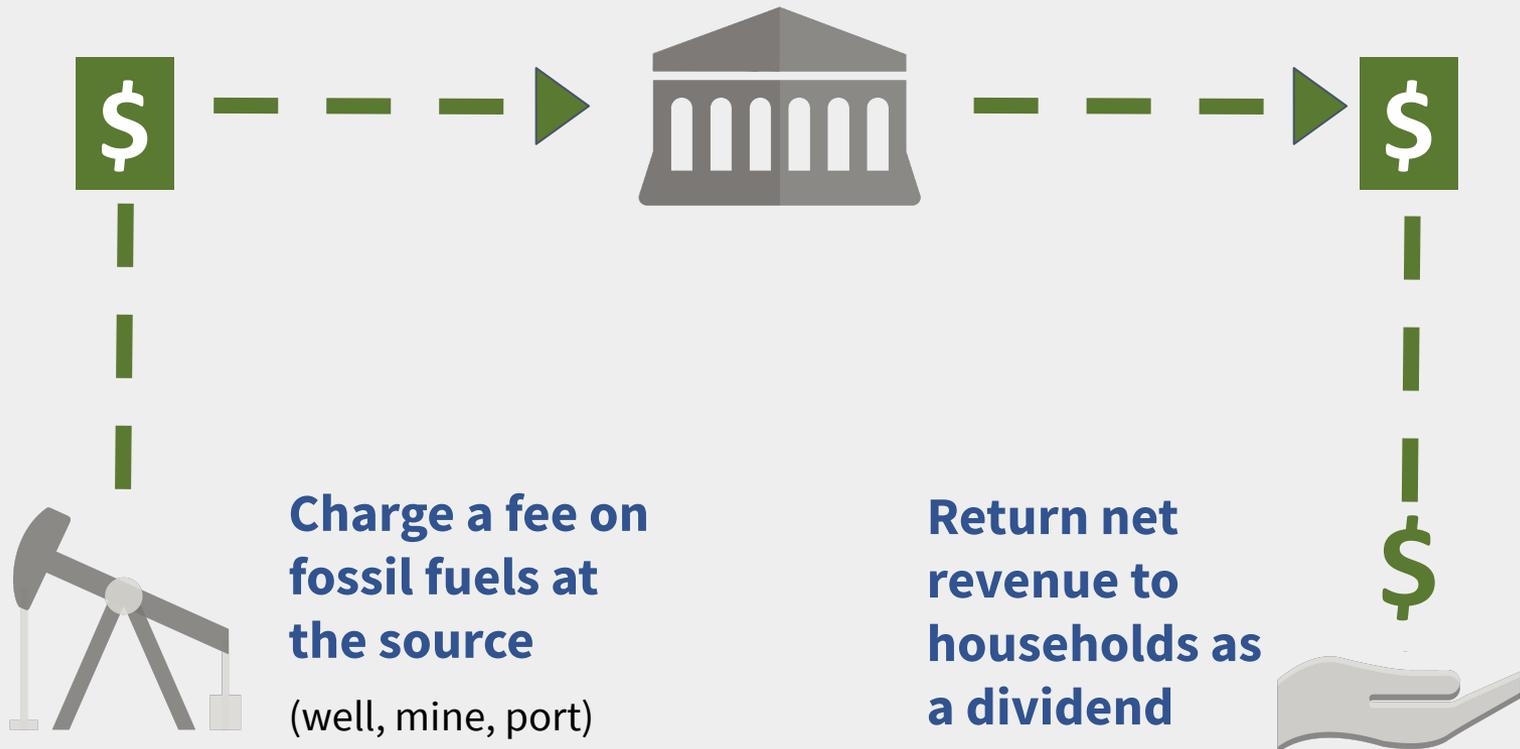


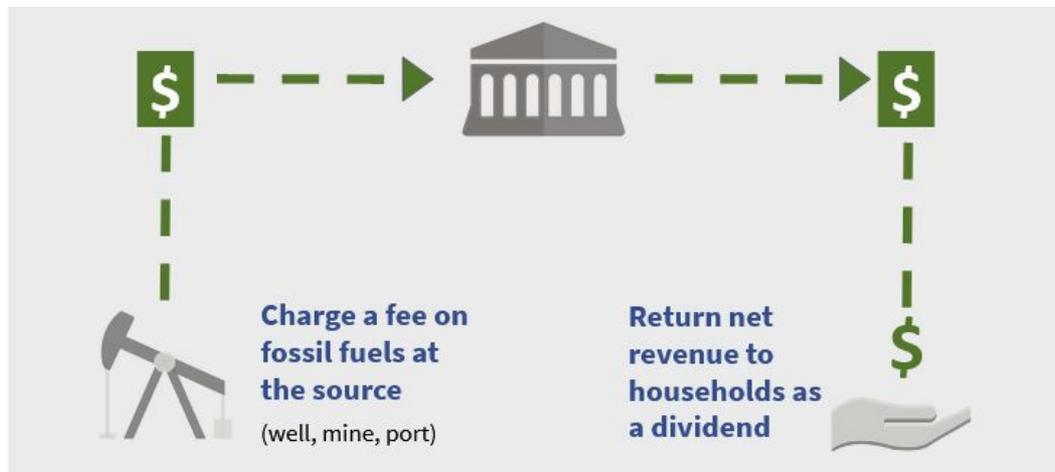
Why a Carbon Fee?

- The price of fossil fuel in our economy is artificially low
- When something costs more, people buy less of it
- As fossil fuels becomes more expensive, there's an incentive for businesses and consumers to **conserve, innovate, find cleaner choices**



How does it work?





Carbon Fee

- An increasing fee is collected on every ton of CO₂ generated from fossil fuels.
- As these fuels become more expensive, consumers and business choose cheaper, cleaner energy sources.

Dividend

- Revenue is rebated as a regular cash payment to all Americans to offset increased energy costs.
- More than two-thirds of Americans will receive more in dividends than they pay in higher costs, especially those who need that benefit the most.

Carbon Border Adjustment

Protect U.S. manufacturers and jobs

- Imported goods pay a border carbon adjustment
- Goods exported from the United States receive a refund

Reduces incentive for US to move dirty industry overseas

Provides an incentive for other countries to reduce emissions

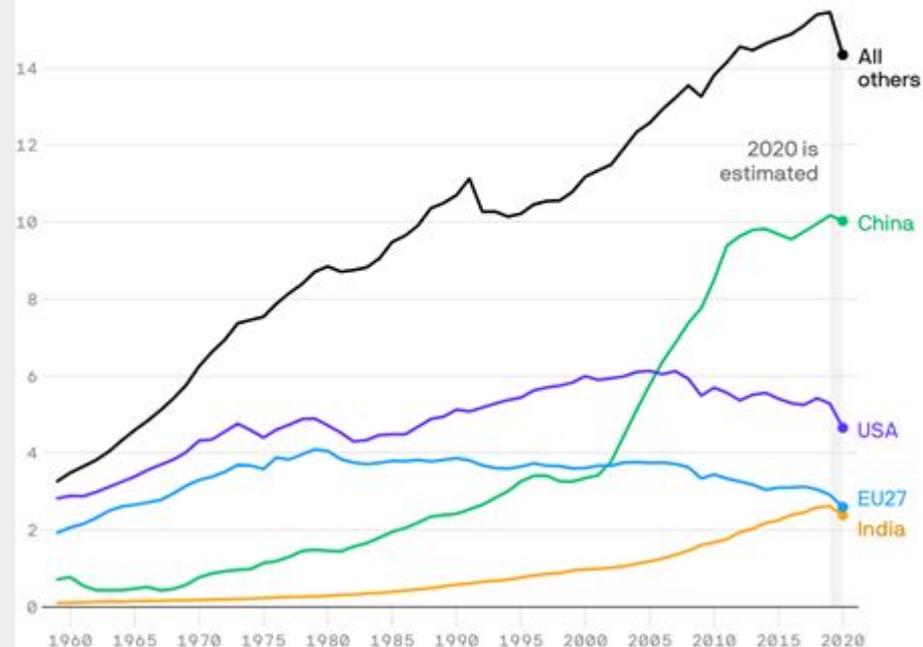


Carbon Border Adjustment

Other Countries have to be a part of the Solution

Carbon emissions from fossil fuels by region

In gigatonnes of CO2 annually, 1959 to 2020



Data: Global Carbon Project; Chart: Connor Rothschild/Axios

What are the advantages?

- **It's socially just.** The dividend protects the most vulnerable from increased energy costs and boosts local economies.
- **It's FAST**
 - Relatively quick and simple to implement
 - Will quickly start driving down carbon emissions and improve air quality and people's health
 - It has economy-wide impact--not just the energy sector
 - It spurs needed innovation. It is a solutions multiplier.
- **It can have a global impact**

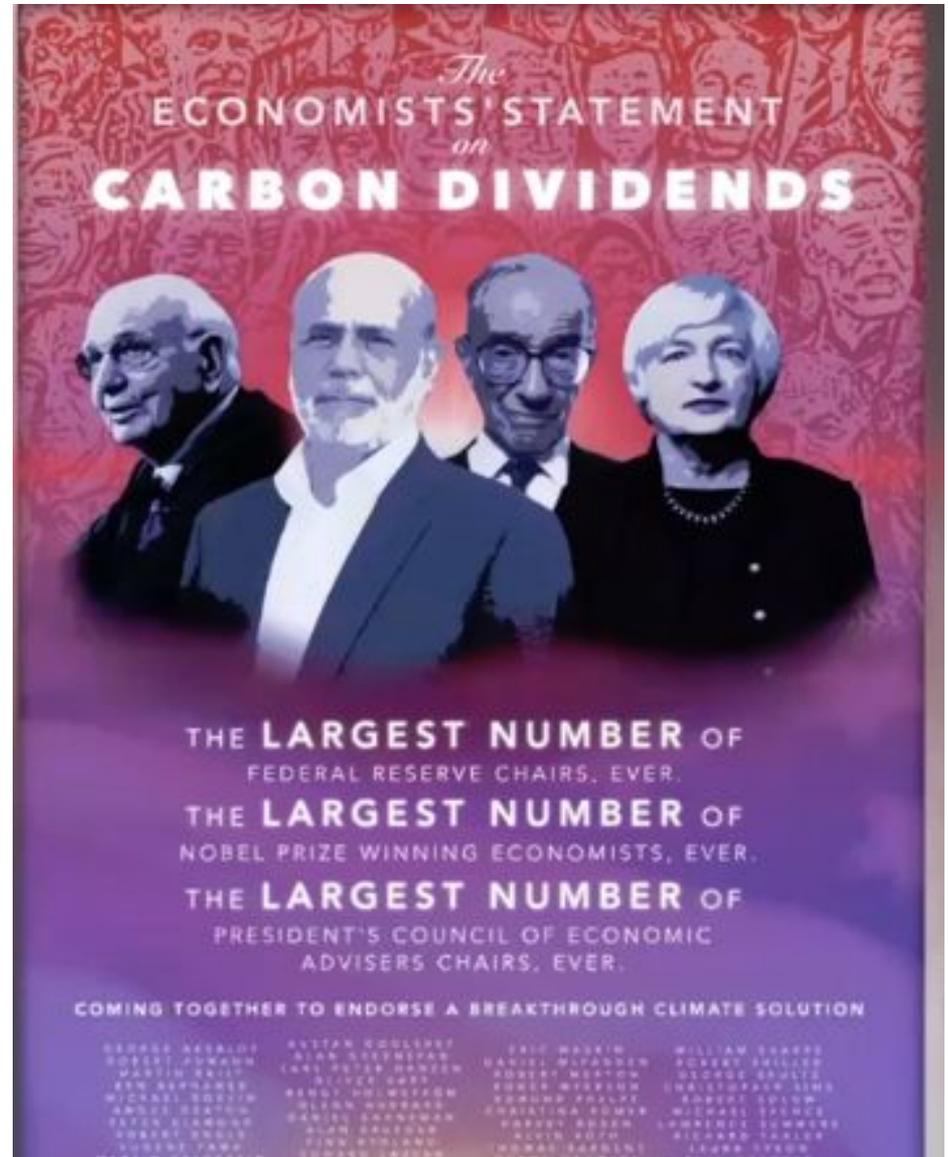
What are the advantages?

- **It reduces consumption**
 - Everyone--business and consumer-- has incentive to use less
- **The dividend can be structured in a variety of ways:**
 - 100 % returned to households
 - Means-tested so mid- and low-income receive dividend; 25-30% of revenue invested in front-line communities, coal communities, infrastructure, etc.
- **It works well with the regulations and investments** that will also be necessary as part of a comprehensive climate policy strategy.

Carbon Fee & Dividend

Supported by:

- 3500+ Economists
- The United Nations
- The Business Roundtable & other businesses
- Many faith communities



It's not the ONLY thing
we need to do,
but data suggests it is an essential
part of any climate package.

Business as usual

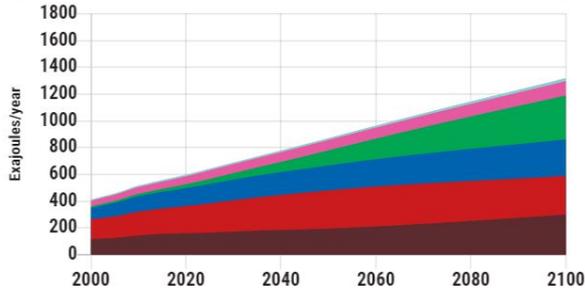
EN-ROADS

Simulation | Graphs | Language | View | Help

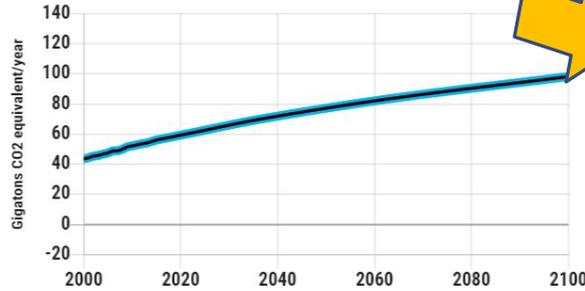
DETA

Share this scenario

Global Sources of Primary Energy



Greenhouse Gas Net Emissions



+3.6°C

+6.5°F

Temperature Increase by 2100

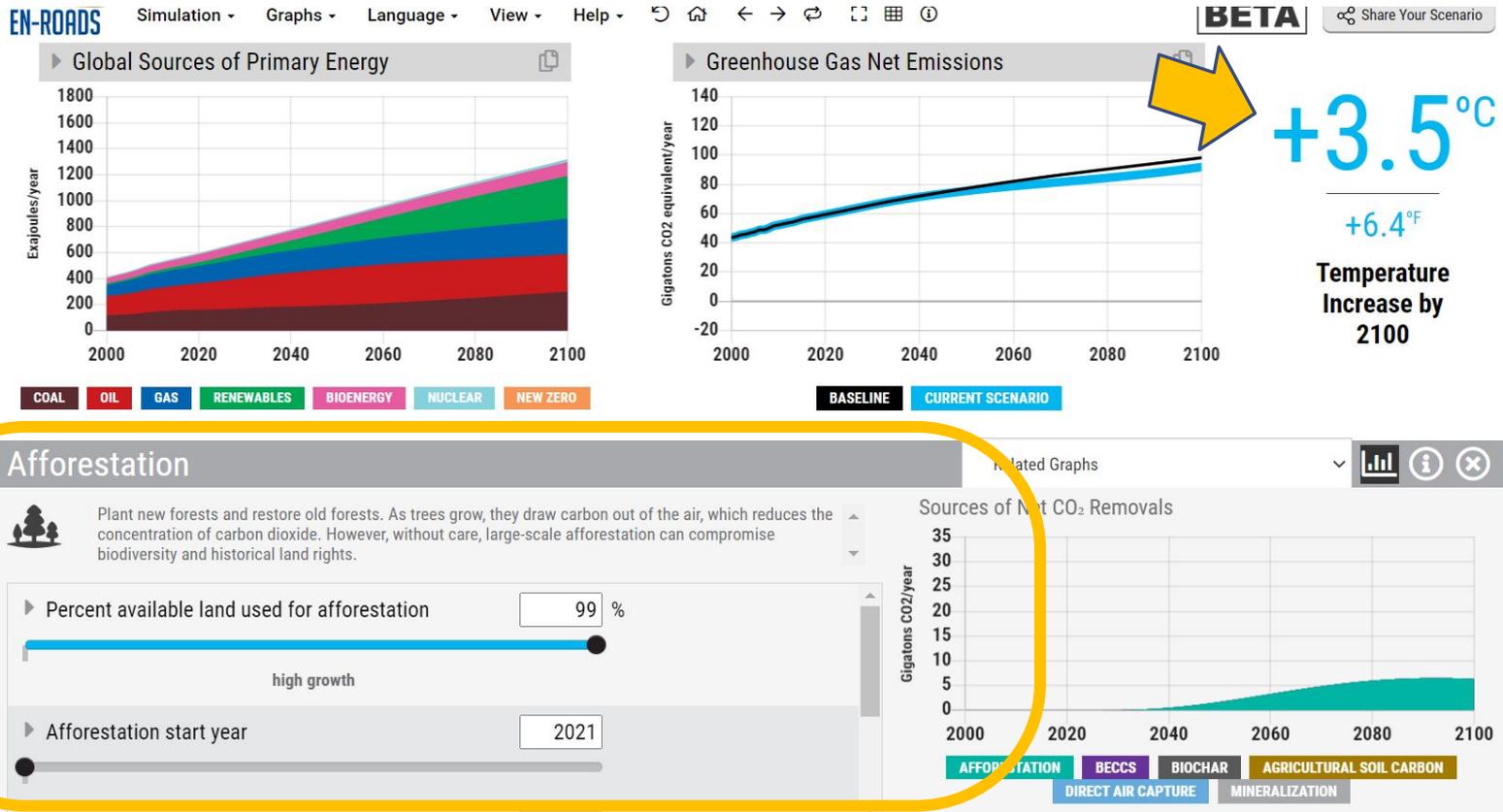
COAL OIL GAS RENEWABLES BIOENERGY NUCLEAR NEW ZERO

BASELINE CURRENT SCENARIO

Energy Supply		Transport		Land and Industry Emissions	
Coal	Renewables	Energy Efficiency	Electrification	Deforestation	Methane & Other
status quo	status quo	status quo	status quo	status quo	status quo
Oil	Nuclear	Buildings and Industry		Carbon Removal	
status quo	status quo	Energy Efficiency	Electrification	Afforestation	Technological
status quo	status quo	status quo	status quo	status quo	status quo
Natural Gas	New Zero-Carbon	Growth			
status quo	status quo	Population	Economic Growth		
status quo	status quo	status quo	status quo		
Bioenergy	Carbon Price				
status quo	status quo				

En-ROADS Climate Ambassador Training

Plant new forest and restore old forests on 99% of available land



Electrify the transportation sector

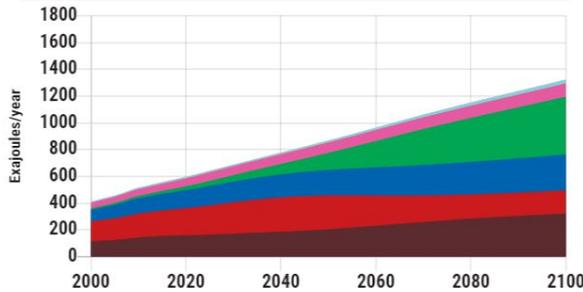
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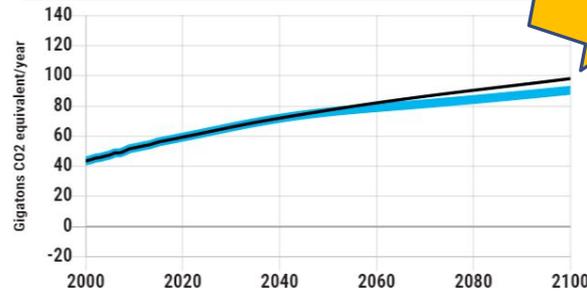
Share your scenario

Global Sources of Primary Energy



COAL OIL GAS RENEWABLES BIOENERGY NUCLEAR NEW ZERO

Greenhouse Gas Net Emissions



BASELINE CURRENT SCENARIO



+3.5°C

+6.4°F

Temperature Increase by 2100

Energy Supply

Coal: status quo

Oil: status quo

Natural Gas: status quo

Bioenergy: status quo

Renewables: status quo

Nuclear: status quo

New Zero-Carbon: status quo

Carbon Price: status quo

Transport

Energy Efficiency: status quo

Electrification: highly incentivized

Buildings and Industry

Energy Efficiency: status quo

Electrification: status quo

Growth

Population: status quo

Economic Growth: status quo

Land and Industry Emissions

Deforestation: status quo

Methane & Other: increased

Carbon Removal

Afforestation: status quo

Technological: status quo

CLIMATE INTERACTIVE

MIT MANAGEMENT Sustainability Initiative

En-ROADS Climate Ambassador Training

Windows taskbar with search bar, task icons, and system tray (8:40 PM, 1/31/2021).

Change energy supply AND electrify transport & building sectors; Improve energy efficiency

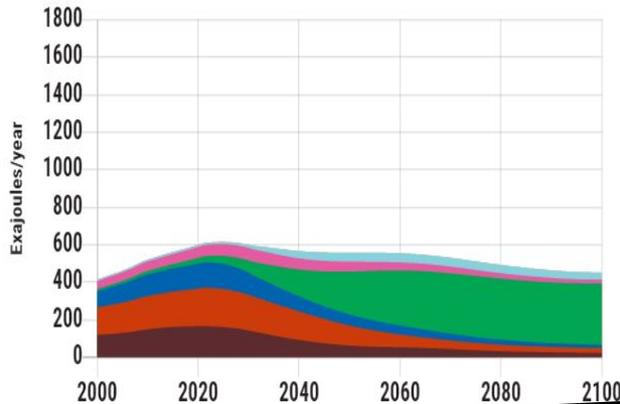
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English Simulation Graphs View Help

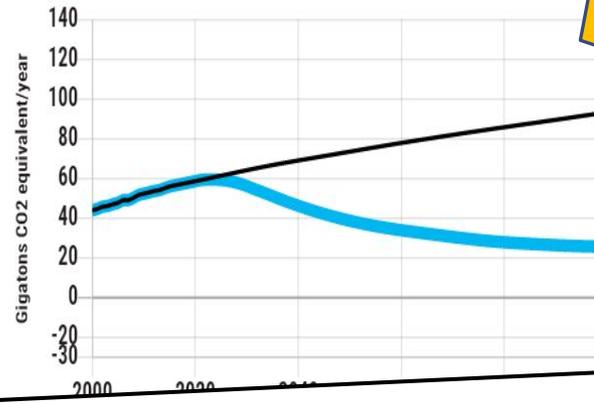
BETA

Share Your Scenario

Global Sources of Primary Energy



Greenhouse Gas Net Emissions



+2.5°C
+4.4°F
Temperature Increase by 2100

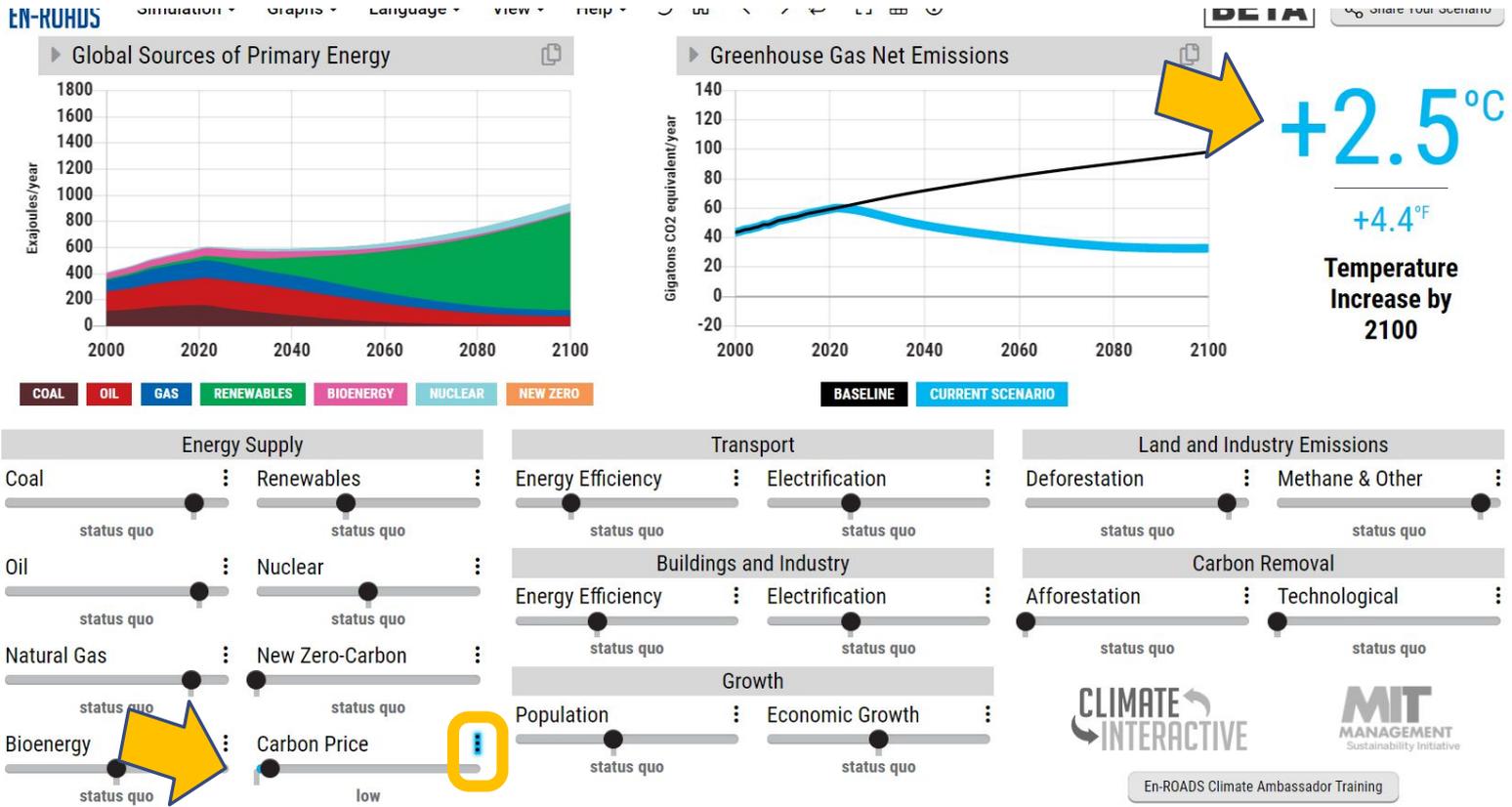
It is likely each of these would require a separate legislative or regulatory policy to achieve. . One sector at a time. What if there were a single policy that achieves similar results?

CLIMATE INTERACTIVE

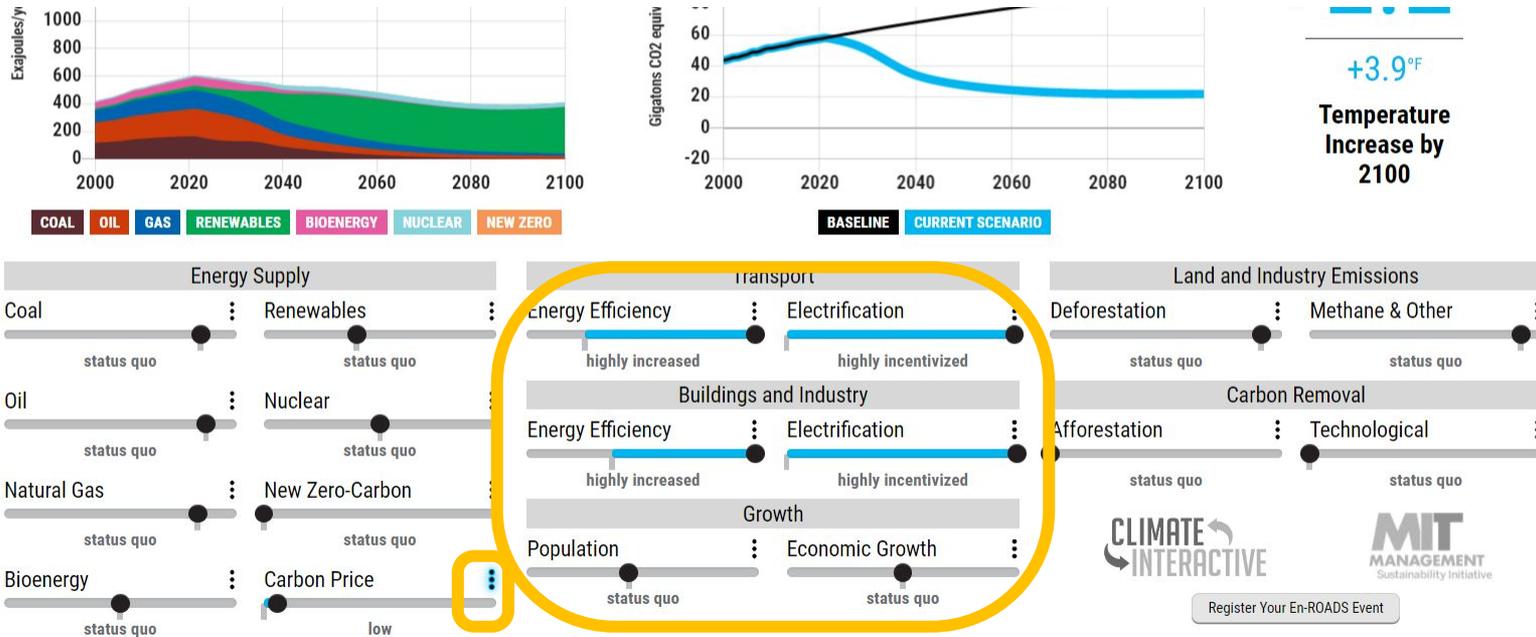
MIT MANAGEMENT Sustainability Initiative

En-ROADS Climate Ambassador Training

What if you simply put a fee on carbon?



Carbon fee is a “solutions multiplier” – creating an incentive to improve energy efficiency and electrification in transport, buildings, & industry



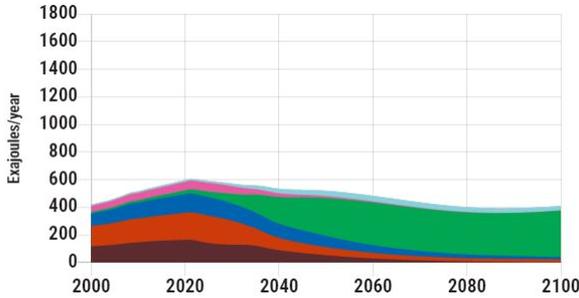
Spurs innovation (like Carbon Capture & Sequestration)

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English Simulation Graphs View Help

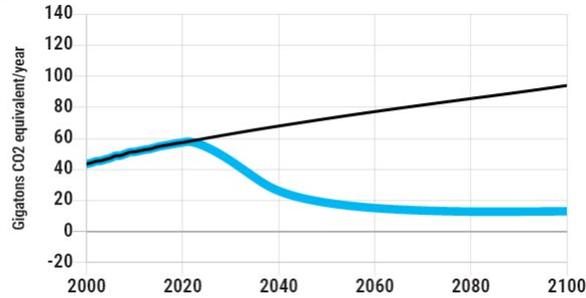
Share Your Scenario

Global Sources of Primary Energy



COAL OIL GAS RENEWABLES BIOENERGY NUCLEAR NEW ZERO

Greenhouse Gas Net Emissions



BASELINE CURRENT SCENARIO

+1.9°C
+3.4°F
Temperature Increase by 2100

Energy Supply

Coal: status quo

Oil: status quo

Natural Gas: status quo

Bioenergy: status quo

Renewables: status quo

Nuclear: status quo

New Zero-Carbon: status quo

Carbon Price: low

Transport

Energy Efficiency: highly increased

Electrification: highly incentivized

Buildings and Industry

Energy Efficiency: highly increased

Electrification: highly incentivized

Growth

Population: status quo

Economic Growth: status quo

Land and Industry Emissions

Deforestation: status quo

Methane & Other: status quo

Carbon Removal

Afforestation: status quo

Technological: medium growth



Register Your En-ROADS Event

v21.6

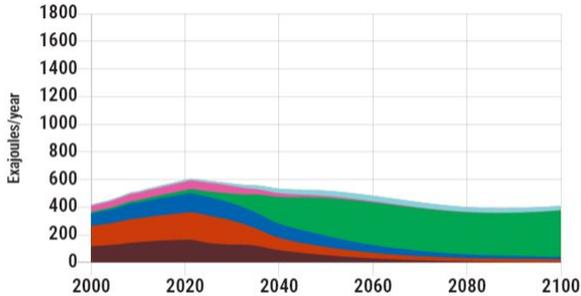
Restore our forests and plant new forests; Green our living spaces

EN-ROADS

English Simulation Graphs View Help

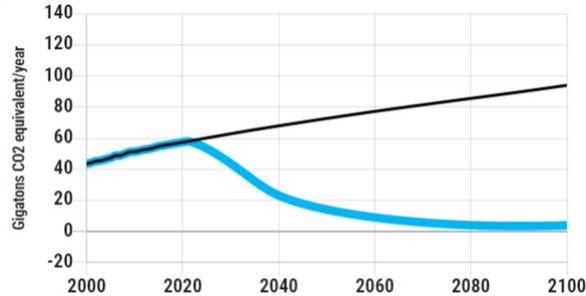
Share Your Scenario

Global Sources of Primary Energy



COAL OIL GAS RENEWABLES BIOENERGY NUCLEAR NEW ZERO

Greenhouse Gas Net Emissions



BASELINE CURRENT SCENARIO

+1.7°C

+3.1°F

Temperature Increase by 2100

Energy Supply

Coal: status quo

Oil: status quo

Natural Gas: status quo

Bioenergy: status quo

Renewables: status quo

Nuclear: status quo

New Zero-Carbon: status quo

Carbon Price: low

Transport

Energy Efficiency: highly increased

Electrification: highly incentivized

Buildings and Industry

Energy Efficiency: highly increased

Electrification: highly incentivized

Growth

Population: status quo

Economic Growth: status quo

Land and Industry Emissions

Deforestation: highly reduced

Methane & Other: status quo

Carbon Removal

Afforestation: high growth

Technological: medium growth

CLIMATE INTERACTIVE

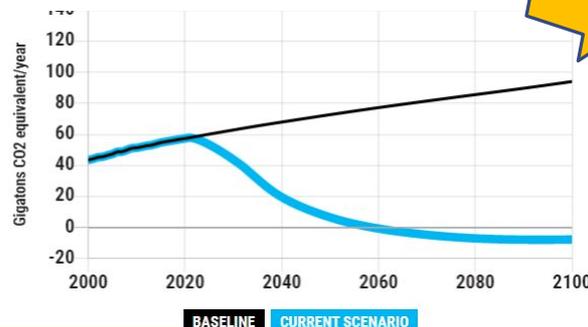
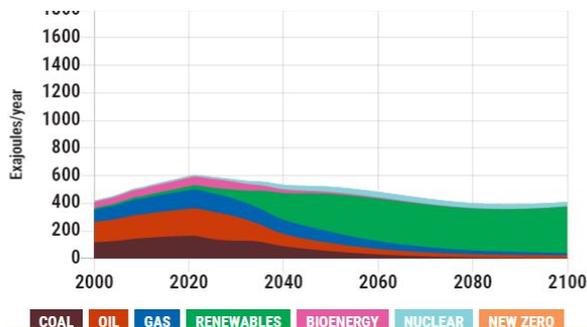
MIT MANAGEMENT Sustainability Initiative

Register Your En-ROADS Event

v21.6

Improve our agriculture techniques; Sequester carbon in the soil

Eat more vegetables



+1.4°C

+2.5°F

Temperature Increase by 2100

Methane & Other Gases



Decrease or increase greenhouse gas emissions from methane, nitrous oxide, and the F-gases. Methane is released from sources like cows, agriculture, natural gas drilling, and waste. Nitrous oxide comes from fertilizers. The F-gases include SF₆, PFCs, HFCs, and others that are used in industry and consumer goods like air conditioners.

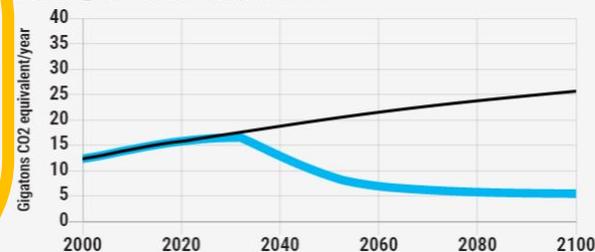
▶ Agricultural and waste emissions (CH₄ & N₂O) -100 %

▶ Energy and industry emissions (CH₄, N₂O, & F-gases) -100 %

▶ Other greenhouse gases start year 2034

Related Graphs

Non-CO₂ Greenhouse Gas Emissions



BASELINE CURRENT SCENARIO

v21.6

A carbon fee can:

- Quickly drive down emissions across 80% of our economy
- Support and accelerate all the other things that need to happen

What questions do you
have?

The image shows the United States Capitol building in Washington, D.C., under a cloudy sky. The building is a grand neoclassical structure with a prominent white dome topped by a statue. The facade features a portico with tall columns and a wide set of stairs leading to the entrance. The foreground is a green lawn with some trees and a few people visible near the base of the building.

What's the current landscape?



NEWSROOM

Senate Approves Growing Climate Solutions Act

Act will help farmers, ranchers and forest landowners to implement climate-friendly practices.

June 24, 2021 | Arlington, VA

Introduced by Senate Agriculture Committee Chairwoman **Debbie Stabenow, D-MI.**, and Sen. **Mike Braun, R-IN**

Co-sponsored by 50+ Senators; **Passed 92-8**



Bipartisan Support of Infrastructure Package



The Senate voted 69-30

Climate-related provisions:

- \$73 billion-electric grid and power infrastructure
- \$66 billion-passenger and freight rail
- \$55 billion- water systems and infrastructure
- \$50 billion-Western water storage
- \$39 billion-public transit
- \$21 billion-environmental remediation projects
- \$15 billion-electric vehicles

A number of climate bills

Only 1 (MARKET CHOICE)
has a Republican sponsor

[Rep. Deutch: Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2021](#)

Sen. Durbin: America's Clean Future Fund Act of 2021

Rep. Marie Newman: America's Clean Future Fund Act of 2021

Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick: Modernizing America with Rebuilding to Kick-start the Economy of the Twenty-first Century with a Historic Infrastructure-Centered Expansion (MARKET CHOICE) Act

Rep. Larson: America Wins Act of 2021

[Sens. Whitehouse-Schatz: Save Our Future Act 2021](#)

[THRIVE ACT](#)

THRIVE Act

Transform, **H**eal, and
Renew by Investing in a **V**ibrant
Economy Act

- **Honoring frontline leadership.** The bill creates a THRIVE Board of representatives from impacted communities, unions and Indigenous Nations to guide the \$1 trillion per year in new investments.
- **Economy-wide investments** to take on **injustice, pollution, and joblessness.**
- **At least 50% of investments for frontline communities.**
- **Respecting Indigenous sovereignty.**
- **Strong labor, equity, and environmental standards.**



Senators Whitehouse and Schatz

Save Our Futures Act

Carbon Fee and Dividend

Addresses a number of
Environmental Justice concerns

Revenue

- 75%--regular dividends to low/mid income household
- 25% directed to:
 - Adversely affected communities
 - Fossil fuel worker communities
 - Assistance to states with climate mitigation

CO2 eq

Puts fee on non-CO2 GHGs (fluorinated gases and process emissions)

Environmental Justice Proposals

A partial list

Transform the current utility system--transition to public ownership

Invest in large-scale public works projects that promote energy efficiency and develop community-based clean energy infrastructure

Create pathways for displaced fossil fuel workers to transition into the clean energy economy

Advance zero energy homes and buildings to curb emissions from the built environment.

Shift investments to public transit and away from highway capacity expansion projects for single-occupancy vehicles

End corporate agricultural consolidations and restore localized food systems

End new fossil fuel exploration and extraction immediately; **Cease the operation of currently-producing fossil fuel infrastructure** adjacent to communities experiencing present-day and generational impacts to human and environmental health

Budget Reconciliation

What the budget deal means for climate policy

By Nick Sobczyk, Emma Dumain, George Cahlink | 07/15/2021 06:09 AM EST



President Biden and Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-N.Y.) at the Capitol yesterday. Francis Chung/E&E News

Many Climate
Advocates are
contacting their
senators

- Interfaith Power & Light
- Environmental Justice groups
- American Sustainable Business Council
- Citizens' Climate Lobby



What we can do....



What is PC (USA)'s position?

PCUSA & Climate Change



The General Assembly has been advocating for decades. In 2018, it approved two policies:

1. **“The Earth Is the Lord’s”** that encourages “the whole church to raise a prophetic voice regarding the urgency of healing the climate of the earth, our home and God’s gift for the future of all life, human and nonhuman” as pastors take on the moral mantle of preaching and teaching while congregations and Presbyterians lead by our example of making energy choices with integrity.



PCUSA & Climate Change

The General Assembly has been advocating for decades. In 2018, it approved two policies:

2. **“On Supporting Carbon Pricing”** that encourages the church to “express its profound concern about the destructive effects of climate change on all God’s creation, including a disproportionate impact on those living in poverty and in the least developed countries” while advocating for the creation of carbon pricing that is fair and just especially for those in vulnerable populations.

About the dividend...

This is essential, for together with our concern for the planet goes our concern for the most vulnerable people living on it. This bill should not result in economically poor people in the U.S. getting poorer.

Office of Public Witness, February 12, 2018



[Home](#) > [Uncategorized](#) > Carbon Pricing Bill reintroduced in 116th Congress

Carbon Pricing Bill reintroduced in 116th Congress

February 12, 2019

February 12, 2018

In Support of the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019 (HR 763)

In June 2018, the 223rd General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) “expressed [profound concern](#) about the destructive effects of climate change on all God’s creation, including a disproportionate impact on those living in poverty and in the least developed countries, the elderly and children, and those least responsible for the emissions of greenhouse gases.” The Assembly went on to express its conviction in a **“moral mandate for humanity to shift to a sustainable energy regime”** and **urged the implementation of “national and international policies that create a consistent, rational, and escalating price for emissions of CO2 and other greenhouse gases, which will reduce consumption and support investment in sustainable alternative energy sources.”**

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2. Click [here](#) to sign up for our e-mail alerts!

About this blog

The Presbyterian Office of Public Witness is the



The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) applauds this bipartisan effort to care for a suffering creation and supports passage of this bill.

Office of Public Witness, February 12, 2018



Tell Congress to Support H.R. 2307: The Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act

This bill will help reduce America's carbon pollution to net zero by 2050. It puts a fee on carbon pollution, creating a level playing field for clean energy. The money collected from fossil fuel companies goes to Americans in the form of a monthly 'carbon cash back' payment so that everyone can afford the transition.



[Support the Energy Innovation & Carbon Dividend Act](#)



Add your name to this letter...

The Honorable Debbie Stabenow
United States Senate
731 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510-2204 Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senator Stabenow,

Thank you for all you do in addressing the many challenges our country is facing: the pandemic, economic insecurity, racial and social injustice, severe wildfires and hurricanes that are devastating communities...the list goes on. Today we are writing to express our deep concern about climate change, as it is a threat multiplier to all these challenges.

As members of the Presbyterian Church (USA), we take seriously our responsibility as stewards of creation. You may be aware that in June 2018, our denomination's General Assembly overwhelmingly passed an overture expressing "profound concern about the destructive effects of climate change on all God's creation, including a disproportionate impact on those living in poverty and in the least developed countries, the elderly and children, and those least responsible for the emissions of greenhouse gases."

We share that profound concern, as we imagine you do as well, and we urge you to take bold bipartisan action. Consistent with our General Assembly's recommendation, we particularly support legislation that includes a carbon fee and dividend like that found in the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act (HR 763). This approach will quickly reduce greenhouse gas emissions and facilitate an economically just, compassionate transition away from fossil fuels to a clean energy economy.

We pray for urgent action on this critical issue.

Sincerely,



To sign, scan the QR Code above or go to
<https://forms.gle/PMPFBYxctUwrWY2j9>

Call or Write



Pastor calling during Earth Day Service





Hello, my name is _____, I live in *[State/District]*, and I'm **calling about Climate Change.**

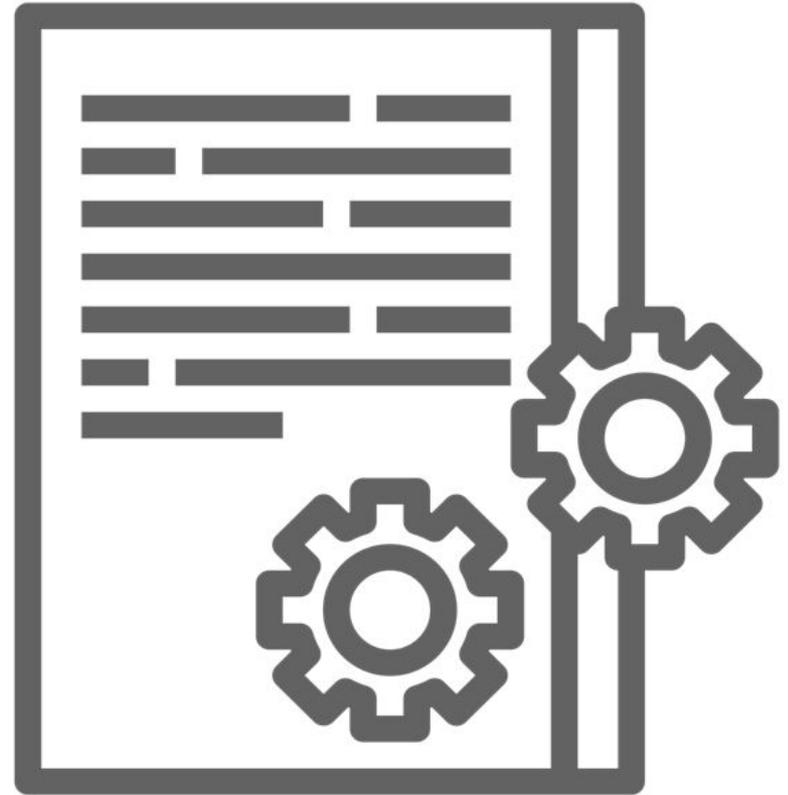
This is an important issue to me, and I encourage you to take bipartisan action.

I particularly support policy that includes a carbon fee & dividend as part of the solution.

What else can you do?

Advocate for CFD **AND** complementary policies to advance equity and health.

Here are a few of my favorites...



For example: **transportation**

- . GHG emissions: more than 1/3 of US total
- . Cost burden: Largest household expense after housing - 32% of income for households in lowest income quintile. Greater burden in rural households
- . Lack of access to car: 14% of households led by people of color vs 6% of white households
- . Transportation spending, zoning, and GHG mitigation subsidies, are unfair to low-income, non-car owning households and limit access to services and opportunity

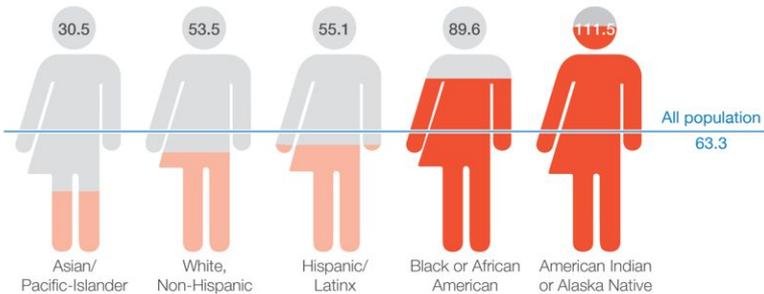
The result?

US Transit is safe, but streets designed for fast driving and larger vehicles are killing pedestrians.

(Sprawling cities in the south and west are most dangerous.)

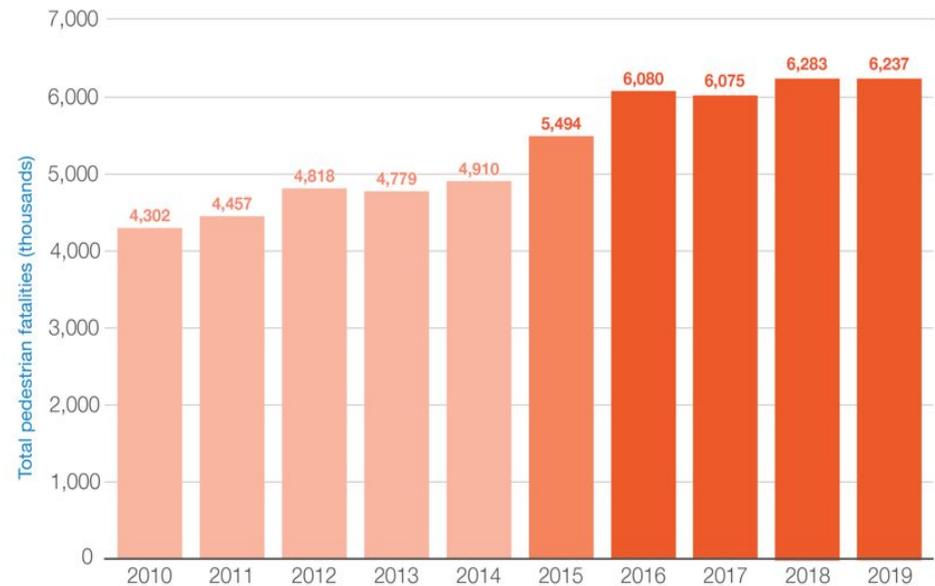
The burden is not shared equally

Relative pedestrian danger by race and ethnicity (2010-2019)



45% increase in people struck and killed while walking

The last four years were the most deadly in three decades



(Smart Growth America 2021)

Transportation policies that
advance just climate
action, health and safety

Smart zero-emission vehicle policy for all



Electrify Public Transit



Strengthen charging infrastructure



Support transition to zero-emissions trucks

[Charge: Smart zero-emission vehicle policy for all](#)

Give public transit and highways equal funding



[undoing the arbitrary 80/20 bias towards federal subsidies for highway construction over transit](#)



Climate change is complex, there is no single or simple fix. Solutions must include measures that are:

- **Socially just**
- **Fast and evidence-based**
- **Global effects**



Thank You!