

A bipartisan solution could be found

| MAY 12, 2014

DAVID ABEL and Matt Viser wrote of the sobering implications for the Northeast of the National Climate Assessment report ([“Region gets a harsh picture of unabated climate change”](#)). The best part of their article was that it focused on the need for hope in the face of this grave assessment.

I took hope from Senator Lindsey Graham’s acknowledgment of climate change, of the futility of pursuing a national cap and trade policy, and yet of the need to become independent of energy sources that deprive us of clean air.

I urge the South Carolina Republican to work with his Republican colleagues in the Northeast, Susan Collins of Maine and Kelly Ayotte of New Hampshire. Both are concerned about the serious harm that climate change poses to our region. Both are reasonable pragmatists who led Congress to pass budget legislation to reopen the government.

In 2010 Collins cosponsored bipartisan legislation to put a price on carbon emissions, and to rebate the proceeds to the public in order to motivate businesses to cut emissions and speed the development of low-cost, readily available nonpolluting alternatives.

Graham, Collins, and Ayotte would be a formidable team to sponsor national carbon tax and rebate legislation.

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<http://www.bostonglobe.com/opinion/editorials/2014/05/11/can-take-hope-that-bipartisan-solution-can-found/MBc9szZO45spg2YjosQ3oM/story.html>