

Carbon tax should appeal to conservatives: letter to the editor



By **Other Voices**

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Thanks for the great **Sunday Forum article by Robert Dintaman, Michele Combs and Brian Smith** explaining from a conservative viewpoint the benefits of an energy-efficiency bill written by Sens. Rob Portman and Jeanne Shaheen. Their energy-efficiency legislation would be even more effective if Congress also would pass a carbon pollution tax to give businesses, industries and individuals extra financial incentive to use less energy from fossil fuels.

A revenue-neutral carbon tax should appeal to the conservative groups that stand for energy reform because a carbon tax is entirely market-based, gives fair and equal treatment to all industries and has been endorsed by conservatives like Case Western Reserve University's legal scholar Jonathan Adler, and Harvard University's economics professor Gregory Mankiw.

Moreover, conservatives worry that reducing U.S. emissions via energy efficiency is not enough to fight climate change because our efforts do not impact the rest of the world. However, a U.S. carbon tax could be designed to have international influence.

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