

Carbon tax may have its day

It's fascinating to watch environmental activist John Kerry exit as secretary of state, and former Exxon-Mobil CEO Rex Tillerson comes to Washington for his hearing with the Senate Foreign Relations Committee about replacing Kerry.

Tillerson has spoken for years about the reality of human-caused climate change and why carbon-tax policies are better for businesses and the public than cap and trade or regulations. He's called for real global solutions to our global climate change problems, and supports the Paris accord. I hope that during the hearings we'll learn how Tillerson intends to work with leaders of other countries on climate change, and how committed he is to helping President-elect Trump and Congress understand the advantages of a national carbon tax.

On March 13, 2014, at a Senate Foreign Relations hearing, climate scientist James Hansen explained reasons for a national carbon tax. Committee chair Sen. Bob Corker, RTenn., concurred, telling Hansen that it's a good idea, but it's time hadn't come yet.

Tillerson filling Kerry's shoes feels like a Nixon-went-to-China moment--perhaps a carbon tax's time has finally arrived. Judy Weiss, Brookline, Mass.

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