Clean air

Maggie Lee's article on the clean air plan pushing Georgia to solar/nuclear gave me hope: she wrote, "But its biggest effect may be to accelerate changes already underway in the state." Terrific — you're not starting from zero, you have momentum. "Would-be solar farmers were scrambling to complete their bids for a big upcoming Georgia Power solar buy." Excellent — people are excited for work opportunities.

I love that Atlanta enacted new legislation to allow third party lending for solar installations. So many states have caps and restrictions limiting solar's growth, restricting ratepayers' freedoms. People in charge complain: they're going to have to decide how to cut emissions — but that's great — they get to decide. You don't have to follow a formula that only works for California, but not for you. You get two extra years to comply, your nuclear counts, your air will be cleaner and your kids healthier. Win, win.

If people worry that U.S. coal will still be mined and burned overseas causing emissions and dangerous sea rise, there's a simple thing to do — investigate Citizens' Climate Lobby. We're encouraging Congress to support U.S. carbon fees that can be charged on imports from countries that don't limit carbon emissions with a similar fee. Since foreign countries won't want their businesses to pay U.S. fees, they'll enact their own carbon fees and they'll stop using coal. Everyone wins if Congress rebates this revenue to the public.

Carbon pricing will get the world to work with us, EPA regs can't do that.

– Judy Weiss Brookline, Mass.

**LINK**