

Congress should act on NASA's climate warning

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Columnist Michael Goldman provides readers with interesting information about the individual federal agencies that we appreciate.

Second highest on the list was NASA, which doesn't just send men to the moon. NASA's world-respected climate scientists have been advising the government for at least 30 years about the effects of carbon pollution on our environment, and in particular, on the progression of climate change.

NASA scientists are alarmed at the accelerating rate of climate change and at the delays built into the system. Those delays mean the emissions we put into the atmosphere last year will cause more climate-change effects in a time-released fashion over about 40 or 50 years.

We pay for NASA's research. We ought to take their results seriously. We ought to demand that Congress pass climate-change legislation to lower emissions across all sectors of our economy, and to promote private investment in renewable-energy companies so that we have more clean, reliable renewable energy soon.

Why are we letting the part of government we hate -- lobbyists and the Congress they control -- refuse to act on the advice and information of the part of government we love -- NASA.

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