

Demand action on climate change

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Thank you for your editorial praising the emissions reduction agreement between America and China, and lamenting Republican negativity about the accord. The accord is important because U.S. emissions are about 16 percent of global emissions while China's emissions are about 25 percent. You could add that a prime driving force for the Chinese agreement with President Obama is the Chinese people have protested their country's intolerable air and water pollution.

Imagine citizens of a country with a non-democratic system of government demanding action on carbon pollution, and their government responds. China's agreement with us is just one step in their government's efforts to reduce emissions. They recently instituted six regional cap and trade programs and promised to begin a national cap and trade program by 2018. They promised to install more solar power just in 2014 (13 gigawatts) than the U.S. has ever installed (12 gigawatts). China still has far to go, but their people demanded action and their government responded.

When will Republican-controlled Congress work with Obama on climate? When Americans demand climate action from our government. Readers should please join Citizens' Climate Lobby to help us convince Congress we want legislation to reduce carbon emissions.

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