

# Don't dismiss carbon tax

By Tribune-Review

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The editorial "Obama's climate monstrosity: Fight back, Congress" (June 28 and [TribLIVE.com](http://TribLIVE.com)) threw many arguments at President Obama's climate action speech. But it is too bad that the Trib didn't remind him that he can't fight Big Oil.

The Trib should have told him that all the major oil companies say on their web pages that when the government thinks it must institute policies to fight climate change, they suggest using an industrywide, transparent, fair, predictable, market-based system, instead of regulations, to reduce emissions. Big Oil hates regulations. ExxonMobil even says it doesn't usually suggest new taxes, but in the case of climate change, it would prefer a new carbon tax as long as it is offset by reductions in personal and corporate income taxes.

The problem with doing nothing on climate change is it is a bad bet for Republicans with the 2016 presidential election looming. Republicans won't win a national election if they haven't supported any climate change policy at all.

Which would the Trib prefer: Hillary Clinton in the White House or a Republican-sponsored carbon tax to allow the public to decide how to reduce emissions?

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<http://triblive.com/opinion/letters/4303604-74/climate-carbon-fight#axzz2Z86aNUSu>