

"Don't ignore the climate"

Mackubin Thomas Owens' column advocates that President Obama should allow oil exports ("Oil's well, let U.S. export it," June 18). However, to present a complete analysis of the issue would require that Owens make at least a brief mention of climate change, and what effect our exports of oil, gas and coal might have on the U.S. and future climate-change risks. Climate change is discussed on the websites of such major oil companies as ExxonMobil, BP, ConocoPhillips, Chevron, Shell and Hess as a serious issue needing governmental action. The companies outline various policy approaches, including setting a price on carbon to further reduce emissions and limit use of fossil fuels.

I urge Owens to write a follow up column addressing the issue and why Congress should enact it in order to enable the president to allow more oil exports while still protecting the atmosphere.

— Judy Weiss, Brookline

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