

For a carbon tax

EDITOR: Thank you for your editorial explaining that climate change is a dangerous reality, caused by humans burning fossil fuels and that it presents a dire threat that will not wait as we waste time debating it or sticking our heads in the sand (“California gets that sinking feeling,” July 8).

You suggested worthwhile adaptive efforts that local governments can undertake to protect residents, but you omitted efforts to lessen climate change. It is easier and cheaper to prevent damage from climate change before it happens than to fix it afterward.

Economists, scientists, businesses and political analysts agree that the best approach for slowing climate change is a revenue-neutral federal tax on carbon fuels. To be most effective, a carbon tax would have to be passed by the Congress elected this fall. Therefore, the most important thing that Californians can do this year to address climate change is to elect people for federal office (Senate, House and president) who understand climate change and plan to take serious action to reduce our carbon emissions.

Please endorse candidates for Congress and president who support a carbon tax.

JUDY WEISS

Brookline, Mass.

<http://www.pressdemocrat.com/article/20120717/OPINION/120719637/-1/news08?p=2&tc=pg>