

Fossilized industries fund climate deniers

Thank you for publishing Sarah Frost's commentary ("Climate deniers deny American ingenuity," Sept. 16). It's a nice spin on the problem, but actually deniers are denying the seriousness of climate change because they fear American ingenuity.

There is an adage in economics: Government policy doesn't choose losers. Losers choose government policy.

Losers tend to be large, wealthy corporations that used to be at the forefront of economic growth but now are declining due to changing circumstances. Fossil-fuel industries are in decline as production costs skyrocket and American ingenuity finds cheaper and faster ways to set up renewable energy projects.

Therefore, fossil-fuel industries fund climate change denial campaigns via ALEC, the Heartland Institute and the American Energy Alliance. They are sitting on old-time, established wealth, and are using it to prevent changes that will be the final nail in the coffin of their unsustainable business models.

Meanwhile, the best solution to climate change is a revenue-neutral carbon tax. Losers will fight a carbon tax. Those who believe in capitalism, the free market and American ingenuity will support it.

No fancy spin necessary.

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<http://www.roanoke.com/opinion/letters/2241424-12/not-always-right-but-better-than-mob-rule.html>