

# Patterson column ignores the facts

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Tom Patterson wrote an incomplete op-ed article on climate change's seriousness and our nation's urgent need for congressional action. To be complete, his article should have discussed ExxonMobil's recent meeting with their hometown newspaper, the Houston Chronicle. Exxon representatives told the Chronicle's editorial board that climate change is serious, poses significant risks and requires government action to cut emissions.

Exxon scientists proudly participated in early climate research, modeling and data collection. They helped the world's climate scientists reach a definitive conclusion that climate change is real, and is caused by humans using fossil fuels. Exxon even used these results in their own business planning.

Exxon executives now recognize that unchecked climate change presents extreme danger to humanity, and they recognize that Congress won't enact climate legislation without the support of our country's biggest businesses. So, Exxon has joined tens of thousands of citizen advocates, thousands of businesses, and all former EPA directors serving Republican presidents, to call for Congress to enact a national U.S. carbon pricing system. Such a pricing system is recommended by economists — right, left and center. Your own senators, John McCain and Jeff Flake, supported various types of carbon pricing systems in the past.

A complete op-ed article on climate change would not have ignored these important facts.

Readers should contact Citizens' Climate Lobby for more information, and should urge McCain and Flake to sponsor the George Shultz carbon fee and dividend program.

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