

## **Placing the blame for bad climate reform**

### **Editor:**

Thanks for Ken Ward's article summarizing topics discussed at the energy summit. Speakers rightly complained climate change regulations discourage business, target coal, and limit U.S. emissions without reducing international emissions. However, speakers wrongly blame President Obama.

Fault belongs to Congress for refusing to acknowledge climate change is happening because they don't like the policy choices. Shame on Congress for denying the problem because they don't like the cures. Obama stepped into the breach by imposing regulations because climate change must be slowed. If people don't like regulations, they must push Congress to act on climate change. Please start pressuring Representatives David McKinley, Shelley Capito and Nick Rahall to act on climate change!

A better policy choice is a carbon tax on all energy producers (regulations primarily target coal). Emissions worldwide would drop if Congress imposed U.S. carbon taxes on imports from countries without comparable taxes. Moreover, a carbon tax would encourage U.S. business because investors would feel secure that clean energy projects would be able to compete.

Congress could put a good spin on a carbon tax by rebating tax proceeds to constituents. Which voters would object to getting a rebate check for taxes paid by coal, oil and gas producers?

*Judy Weiss*

*Citizens Climate Lobby member*

*Brookline, Mass.*

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