

Opinion: Uncertainty amid climate scientists

[July 28, 2014](#)

Dear Editor,

I was delighted to see that you published an oped article on climate change ("[EPA consultations a sham](#)"). As a volunteer member of Citizens' Climate Lobby, I hope that climate change articles contain accurate information provided in a respectful and polite manner.

Unfortunately, Harris provided misleading information. He said the EPA has ignored "an intense debate ... raging in the scientific community." No intense debate exists in the scientific community about the theory of climate change.

The only uncertainty amid climate scientists is how bad it will become and how fast. Climate scientists agree that climate change is measurable, that long term trends indicate it is progressing, and that it is caused by human activity.

Harris also disrespectfully called EPA hearings a sham. Fortunately Americans have not been fooled by this type of impolite misinformation campaign. A recent poll indicates 80% of Americans, in red districts and in blue districts, agree the U.S. government has a responsibility to address climate change. Majorities in red and blue districts assert the government is not doing enough about the problem. Other polls indicate Americans trust the EPA more than Congress to protect the environment, and will favor candidates who support the EPA. However, the biggest surprise to Congress may be that a majority of Americans, both Democrats and Republicans, would support a carbon tax to reduce emissions if tax revenues were used for developing renewable energy or were

rebuted to the public.

In the upcoming Congressional elections, it is important for voters and journalists to press candidates to discuss their position on climate change policy. One need not be a scientist to understand we must fix this problem, and the public wants Congressional action, including a carbon taxes.

Thank you,

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