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We have 10 years to reduce our carbon emissions by 45% if we are to have any chance of keeping global temperature rise to 1.5 C. That's according to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report, a consensus of over 6000 peer-reviewed studies. We are at about 1 C over preindustrial temperatures and that's not going so well for us, is it? The wildfire season is an average of 100 days longer in the West than in the '70s. We are in grave danger.

The excuses I have heard from our Republican legislators break my heart. "Start with China", "Oregon is too small to make a difference", and they stoke the urban/rural divide, even though the bulk of the fees would have gone to revitalizing our rural communities. My senator's office couldn't deny that last fact, but said her constituents didn't trust the government to implement the money in a timely manner. She IS the government! Republicans must be a part of a solution instead of obstruction. Oregon must be part of the solution.

We must remember the lessons of history. The economy of the South was tied to slavery. Rather than work together to transition to a new economy, they chose the immoral and unsustainable institution of slavery and civil war. Poor choice, right? The German people tolerated genocide because Hitler improved the economy. That didn't end well for them either. Oregon can transition now for a green economy funded by the polluters who foul our air, land, and water or we will suffer, especially our precious children. Please don't delay.

Sent from my iPad