

Chair Beyer and Members of the Committee,

Climate disruption requires immediate and decisive action, according to scientists and leading policy makers, if we are to effectively prevent global alterations of the planet's life support systems. While some sectors in the US, such as power generation due to the deployment of cost-effective renewable energy technology, have displayed moderation or slight decline in greenhouse gas emissions, globally emissions continue to escalate. The upshot is this: humanity requires all available tools to arrest dire consequences of the rapid climate disruption.

An effective market-driven tool to reduce harmful greenhouse gas emissions has been demonstrated in several European countries: carbon pricing and dividends. Our northern neighbor, British Columbia, introduced fuel carbon pricing and dividends several years ago and discovered economic benefits, despite Great Recession pressures. Ireland found similar results. To the extent that a national approach is taken to avoid state boarder product migration, everyone would be well-served.

Please study the opportunity in SJM 5 to send a clear message to Congress: your responsibility to enact swift and equitable market mechanisms against climate disruption that offer multiple benefits is now.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kris Nelson
NE Portland