

Q. How much would it raise the price of gas at the pump?

A: a \$15 fee per ton of CO_2 would add \$0.13 per gallon; a \$30 fee would add \$0.26¹.

Q. How much would people get back from your carbon fee?

A. If a \$15 fee per ton of CO_2 were to be collected in 2012, it would raise \$81.3 billion. Dividing by an estimated 316.3 million Americans in 2012, \$257 would be returned to each individual. In 10 years, that number would be \$1,391 back per individual¹.

Q. What do the poorest spend on carbon?

A. The poorest 20% of Americans account for only 9% of carbon consumption, while the richest 20% account for 32%. Doing the math, with our proposal the poorest 20% would get back \$141 more than they paid in the first year; more than double their costs due to the fee².

Q. What's the difference between the state hardest hit by the fee and the least affected state?

 \tilde{A} . A Resources for the Future report assuming a \$20.87 price per metric ton of CO₂ (\$18.92 per US ton¹) found that average households in the Northeast (including CT, ME, MA, NH, RI) would be the hardest hit losing \$234 in consumer surplus while Texas would be least affected losing only \$3 per year. The national average was an \$86 loss of consumer surplus. However, returning dividends evenly still resulted in consumer surplus gains for the poorest 20% even in the Northeast³.

Q. What would the hardest-hit industries be, and how much would the price of their products rise? A. Coal, oil and gas would be the hardest hit, but that's the point. The next-hardest hit industry would be air transportation, with industry price rises of 1.8% (2.2% for consumers) in the first year⁴.

Q. *What percentage of American families would break even or end up ahead with your carbon fee?* A. Two thirds of American families would break even or end up ahead with our bill⁵.

Q. Do renewables really create more jobs than traditional fossil fuels?

A. As early as 2008 the wind sector already employed more people than the coal mining industry⁶ even though in 2009 coal accounted for 44.5% of electricity generation while wind produced only 1.9%⁷. The coal mining industry maintains 82,595 jobs nationwide, while the wider coal industry supports 174,000 permanent jobs nationwide⁸.

Q. Will this renewable job advantage continue once the initial construction phase is over?

A. If wind makes up 20% of national domestic energy needs by 2030, conservative estimates are that over 500,000 jobs would be generated and "supported"⁸. The entire renewable energy and energy efficiency sectors combined could sustain over 37 million jobs by 2030⁸.

Q. Why should we move on this if China isn't?

A: China is moving. In 2009 China committed \$34.6 billion to clean energy investment compared to \$18.6 billion in the US. Roughly 4% of generating capacity in both the US and China comes from renewables, but with twice the new investment in clean energy, China is on track to be the **world** leader in clean energy investment, manufacturing, and installed capacity, within **one to two years**⁸.



References

- 1. Charles Komanoff. "4-sector National Carbon Tax Model." The Carbon Tax Center, 2011. URL: http://www.komanoff.net/fossil/CTC_Carbon_Tax_Model.xls
- 2. "Managing Impacts." The Carbon Tax Center, 2010. URL: http://www.carbontax.org/issues/softening-the-impact-of-carbon-taxes/ Last accessed: 2/14/11.
- 3. Burtraw, Dallas; Sweeney, Richard; Walls, Margaret. "The Incidence of U.S. Climate Policy: Alternative Uses of Revenues from a Cap-and-Trade Auction." Resources for the Future, 2009. URL: http://www.rff.org/RFF/Documents/RFF-DP-09-17.pdf
- 4. Gilbert E. Metcalf. "Green Employment Tax Swap: Using a Carbon Tax to Finance Payroll Tax Relief" The Brookings Institution and the World Resources Institute, 2007. URL: http://www.wri.org/publication/green-employment-tax-swap
- Boyce, James K; Riddle, Matthew E. "Clear Economics: State-Level Impacts of the Carbon Limits and Energy for America's Renewal Act on Family Incomes and Jobs." Political Economy Research Institute, 2010. URL: http://www.peri.umass.edu/fileadmin/pdf/other_publication_types/green_economics/ CLEAR_Economics.pdf
- 6. Eoin O'Carroll. "Does wind power really provide more jobs than coal?" The Christian Science Monitor, January, 2009. URL: http://www.csmonitor.com/Environment/Bright-Green/2009/0131/does-wind-power-really-provide-more-jobs-than-coal
- 7. "Electric Power Industry 2009: Year in Review". The US Energy Information Administration. Report revised Jan. 4 2011. URL: http://www.eia.doe.gov/cneaf/electricity/epa/epa_sum.html
- 8. Joseph Robertson. "Building a Green Economy". The Citizens Climate Lobby, 2010. URL: http://citizensclimatelobby.org/node/457