

MOSCOW-PULLMAN DAILY NEWS

Letter: Leading on climate change

Saturday, June 28, 2014

Based on a recent poll conducted by the Yale Project on Climate Change Communication, by a 3-to-1 margin voters nationally are more likely to pick a candidate for office who supports strong policies to combat global warming.

A recent report conducted by the highly respected economic analysis firm Regional Economic Models, Inc., found that putting a gradually-increasing fee on carbon and returning the proceeds to the American people would be good for the economy, job growth and highly effective in reducing the carbon emissions that cause global warming.

These economic benefits were found to be particularly significant in states such as Idaho.

Idaho has essentially no fossil-fuel production but a large potential for cost-effective carbon-free energy production from solar, wind and geothermal. Using fossil fuels produced elsewhere draws wealth and vitality from our economy, while harnessing carbon-free energy sources locally creates wealth and new jobs.

In an interview that is part of the Showtime series "Years of Living Dangerously," Thomas Friedman asked Barack Obama this question: "What is the one thing you would

still like to see us do to address climate change?"

The president answered, "Put a price on carbon."

The Republicans last week showed us that they are in disarray over ideological issues. The Democrats have a huge opportunity to demonstrate that they are still in business doing the people's work. Please support the proposed plank to put a price on carbon. The American people are calling out for leadership on this issue.

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