

MOSCOW-PULLMAN DAILY NEWS

Letter: A way to cool the planet now

Friday, February 13, 2015

The lead article "Report: Time to examine how to cool the planet" in this newspaper on Feb. 11 certainly gave this reader some pause. The National Academy of Sciences is investigating injecting sulfur into our skies to mimic the eruptions of a large volcano. The idea behind this research is that perhaps very large amounts of sulfur could act like a barrier to reflect the sun's heat.

However, the scientists warned "there could be dramatic and dangerous side effects that they don't know about" on weather and climate, and they agreed that this technology should only be a last-ditch effort towards curbing climate change.

Let's head off that last-ditch scenario. There's a very viable plan already on the table to cut the use of carbon dioxide producing fuels, with more everyday people, scientists, economists, businesses and politicians supporting the plan every month.

The plan is called Carbon Fee and Dividend. It would:

- 1) Collect a steadily rising fee on fuels that produce carbon dioxide, a major greenhouse gas;
- 2) Give all of the revenue from the carbon fee back to households;

3) Include border adjustments to ensure fair competition;

4) Result in more jobs, a strong economy and a drop in carbon emissions by 2035 back to 50 percent below the 1990 level of emissions.

Find out about this proposal and how to become a part of the solution at <http://citizensclimatelobby.org/carbon-fee-and-dividend/> or <http://cclpalouse.org/>.

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