

AGENDA – Oct. 17, 2019
Palouse Citizens' Climate Lobby

5:30-7:00pm, Umpqua Bank Meeting Room, 225 N. Grand Ave., Pullman

Introductions

Additions to the Agenda and Review of Minutes

Announcements

- **Dr. Robin Meyers**, NPR Commentator – Nov. 4 12:00 pm, “Climate Change: A Moral Imperative”, WSU Foley Institute
- **CCL November Lobby Day** - Nov. 11-12 in Washington DC. Palouse CCL can help with costs.
- **Bob Inglis**, RepublicEn, former Member of Congress
 - Nov 13 – 6:30 pm, joint Moscow High School/University of Idaho climate town hall
 - Nov 14 - 9:30 am, UI presentation to journalism class
 - Nov 14 – 12:00 pm, Keynote at WSU Foley Institute

CCL-Palouse Reports and Business

- **Treasurer's Report** - Steve
- **Youth Action** – Climate Strike and more
- **Tabling and Presentations**
 - *Paris to Pittsburgh* at Kenworthy, Aug. 28 - Mac
 - Moscow Farmers Market - Simon
 - Climate Strike, Sept 20 - Mary
- **Publications**
- **EICDA Endorsements** – Updates; new focus on local Grasstops in Ag and Health?
- **Latah County**
 - Latah County Commissioners – Mac/Carolyn
- **Pullman and Whitman County**
 - Pullman Climate Action Plan - Judy
 - Whitman County Commissioners
- **Chambers of Commerce** – Teams to work on Chamber program on Ag/Health economies - Mary

Communication Exercise: Dividend Delivery

National CCL Monthly Call: Kiera O'Brien

Younger GOP voters are as concerned about climate change as their progressive counterparts. As vice president of [Students for Carbon Dividends](#), Kiera O'Brien is working to harness that passion among young conservatives to generate political will for carbon dividends legislation, which places a fee on carbon and gives revenue to households (sound familiar?). Kiera, who is President Emeritus of the Harvard Republican Club, recently testified at a congressional hearing. "There are many climate-oriented groups rallying around the problem, but Students for Carbon Dividends is rallying around the solution." <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=03ezLLDYmOs&feature=youtu.be>

National CCL Action:

Organize for November Lobby Day – 1) Call Congress, 2) Brainstorming messages (“asks”) to ID and WA MoCs

Next Meeting: Thursday, Nov 21, 5:30-7 at Senior Center in 1912 Center, 412 East 3rd St. Moscow

Dividend Delivery

LASER TALK EXERCISE

In our June lobby meetings in D.C., members of Congress and their staff asked more questions about the Energy Innovation Act's dividend than any other topic. CCL wisely commissioned Alan Lerman, who served in the U.S. Treasury Department for 42 years, to write a detailed dividend delivery study that addresses concerns about the cost and method of returning carbon fee proceeds to households.

Let's prepare to discuss dividend delivery in congressional offices and in other situations where you are discussing the bill with curious folks.

Exercise

Pair up with another volunteer and take turns reading aloud the laser talk paragraphs below and then say aloud in your own words what you remember and want to use.

Laser Talk - How are carbon dividends going to be delivered to households?

The carbon dividend is one of the three legs of H.R.763, the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019, so it's important to get it right. CCL previously commissioned an expert study to dive deeply into how this would be done. Our goal was to minimize administrative cost and make it work smoothly for everyone involved, while still getting the money to as many households as possible.

The expert study confirmed that remitting carbon dividends directly to households is, as CCL had anticipated, the least costly and least burdensome way to recycle the revenue to consumers.

All the fees collected from fossil fuel suppliers go into the Carbon Dividend Trust Fund which is administered by the Treasury Department. The entirety of that fund, after administrative overhead, is distributed to recipients, who are identified from existing tax records or through a special form submitted by those who haven't filed income taxes.

Most recipients will get their carbon dividend in the form of a direct bank deposit or as money added to an existing government-issued debit card, with paper checks as a backup. Eligibility changes – births, deaths, adoptions, age changes – will be taken care of on a monthly basis, and any discrepancies between the money they are entitled to and what they have received will be reconciled on the next income tax return.

CCL is satisfied that these steps will make the carbon dividend delivery fair, flexible, and highly visible to households.

For more details, refer to the [Dividend Delivery Working Paper or accompanying FAQ](#). Note that this paper was written prior to H.R. 763's introduction, so there are some minor policy differences.