



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

May 23, 2017

VICE PRESIDENT
Damon Connolly
1ST DISTRICT

Re: Request for Resolution Urging the United State Congress to Enact a Revenue-Neutral Carbon Fee

Katie Rice
2ND DISTRICT

Dear Colleagues:

2ND VICE PRESIDENT
Kathrin Sears
3RD DISTRICT

Addressing climate change and mitigating the impacts of global warming are the defining challenges of the 21st century and beyond. The world's leading scientists agree that human activity has already affected the Earth's climate by emitting harmful greenhouse gases that are responsible for global warming. Evidence of this has manifested itself in extreme weather events occurring with greater frequency around the world. For Marin County, a changing climate will affect temperature, precipitation patterns and sea level rise, threatening all of us, including our coast and Bayfront lands and infrastructure. The future will bring wetter weather and hotter, dryer temperatures with the threat of catastrophic wildfires, costing lives and millions of dollars of property damage and devastation.

Dennis Rodoni
4TH DISTRICT

PRESIDENT
Judy Arnold
5TH DISTRICT

Matthew H. Hymel
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
CLERK OF THE BOARD

Marin's recent BayWAVE and C-SMART vulnerability assessments have given us a window to a changed future showing built and natural systems at risk of more frequent flooding and eventual inundation. Phase 2 of these programs aim at devising successful adaptation strategies. At the same time and on a parallel track, we're racing to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through Marin's adopted Climate Action Plan. With items on the County's proposed work plans and budget, we're on target to meet our goal of reducing greenhouse gases 15 percent below 1990 levels by 2020. But our actions here in Marin are not enough.

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To have a significant impact we need a national solution based on meaningful new policies – specifically, a revenue-neutral carbon fee to incentivize and support reducing carbon emissions. Reduction of CO2 is the most efficacious and cost-effective risk-reduction strategy in our climate-smart toolbox. A national carbon tax on fossil fuels, based on the amount of carbon the fuel emits when burned, with a corresponding dividend to households, will help account for the true cost of fossil fuel emissions while, at the same time, creating an effective price signal to shift energy use to safer, renewable sources. It's exactly the policy push we need to drive the market to our desired clean future. Thank you for your consideration.

Best regards,


Kathrin Sears

Supervisor, District 3



Damon Connolly

Supervisor, District 1

