

## **Plain and simple: putting a price on fossil energy will spur a just transition in DC to a clean, renewable energy economy where everyone benefits — except the polluters.**

Climate change threatens the health, homes, and pocketbooks of DC residents. We have the power to turn these trends around by passing a carbon rebate for all.

The plan will charge major polluters like Pepco-Exelon and Washington Gas for their carbon emissions and rebate the overwhelming majority of the revenue back to every resident of the District. By encouraging efficient energy use and clean energy, the carbon rebate will empower all to participate in the green economy.<sup>1</sup>

## **The details: rebates, investments, tax cuts equal a 23% drop in carbon emissions.**

Advocates enlisted the services of the well-known DC-based think tank called the [Center for Climate Strategies](#) (CCS) to undertake a sophisticated analysis of these carbon fees for the District using an energy/economic computer model from the highly respected company [Regional Economic Models, Inc.](#) They found that the mix of 75% rebate, 20% investments, and a 5% tax cut for businesses produced maximum economic benefits while reducing carbon pollution by 23% in the city by 2032.

The carbon fee begins at \$20 per ton of CO<sub>2</sub> in 2019 and rises by \$10 per ton every year to a cap of \$150 per ton in 2032, and applies to natural gas and oil consumed in the District as well as carbon-intensive electricity and emissions linked to transportation (exempting public transportation). Rebates are then invested back into the community, benefiting local businesses, workers, and household incomes in DC.

## **Let's make DC a model for the nation.**

Across the US, Mexico, Canada, and worldwide, there is a range of proposals to put a price on carbon at various stages of development. What makes the Climate and Community Investment Act unique is its innovative and equitable carbon rebate program, which tailors the carbon pricing policy to the city's needs and sets it on a path to success.

In June 2017, Mayor Bowser publicly pledged to uphold the goals of the Paris climate accord by reducing city-wide emissions by 80% by 2050. However, no plans have been released on how the District will meet this target. By passing the Climate and Community Reinvestment Act of DC, the DC Council can utilize a carbon fee-and-rebate policy as an effective vehicle to meet this strong reduction goal, and it's time to act. The most equitable, efficient, and effective way to lead on climate is by putting a price on carbon and rebating the proceeds back to District residents and small businesses. Join the campaign to make DC the healthiest, greenest, and most livable city in the United States. Let's go!

<sup>1</sup> Alaska's "Permanent Fund" works like the proposed carbon rebate by giving equal payments to all residents in the state. These payments have helped Alaska's economy grow, reduced poverty, and made Alaska one of the most socio-economically equal states in the country.

