

Message

From: Melissa Carey [REDACTED]@TNC.ORG]
Sent: 21/08/2019 15:26:43
To: CEO Climate Dialogue Full Staff Group [REDACTED]@lyris.merid.org]
Subject: RE: Politico: Romney 'looking at' carbon dividend proposal

Redacted - First Amendment

From: Ann W Loomis [REDACTED]@dominionenergy.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 21, 2019 11:02 AM
To: Melissa Carey <[REDACTED]@TNC.ORG>; CEO Climate Dialogue Full Staff Group [REDACTED]@lyris.merid.org>
Subject: RE: Politico: Romney 'looking at' carbon dividend proposal

Redacted - First Amendment

Ann Loomis

Vice President | Federal Affairs | Dominion Energy
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From: Melissa Carey [REDACTED]@TNC.ORG>
Sent: Wednesday, August 21, 2019 10:53 AM
To: CEO Climate Dialogue Full Staff Group [REDACTED]@lyris.merid.org>
Subject: [External] RE: Politico: Romney 'looking at' carbon dividend proposal

Redacted - First Amendment

From: Timothy J. Mealey <[REDACTED]@merid.org>
Sent: Tuesday, August 20, 2019 8:33 PM
To: CEO Climate Dialogue Full Staff Group [REDACTED]@lyris.merid.org>
Subject: FW: Politico: Romney 'looking at' carbon dividend proposal

FYI

Subject: Politico: Romney 'looking at' carbon dividend proposal

Romney 'looking at' carbon dividend proposal

By Anthony Adragna

08/20/2019 02:58 PM EDT

Sen. Mitt Romney of Utah said this week he's "looking at" a legislative proposal that would impose a carbon tax on major emitters and direct the proceeds to taxpayers and coal communities.

Speaking to the conservative Sutherland Institute on Monday in Salt Lake City, the 2012 Republican presidential nominee said the proposal would charge major emitters a tax of "roughly" \$50 a ton. Ninety percent of the revenues collected would be returned to consumers and 10 percent would go to communities, particularly those in coal country that have been hurt by the decline of the industry.

"The interest that might be associated with this kind of policy would be the incentive it would create for carbon reduction and innovation, and the breakthroughs that might come as a result of that," Romney said. "And also the fact that we could help some of the communities that are struggling."

Various carbon pricing proposals have been introduced in Congress this year, though they have drawn little interest from Republicans. Among those is a bill, S. 2284 (116), pushed by Sen. Chris Coons (D-Del.), who has been looking for a Republican to replace his former co-sponsor, Sen. Jeff Flake (R-Ariz.), who did not stand for reelection last year.

Romney acknowledged that he wasn't in line with others in his party on the issue, saying "I'm not part of the Republican establishment these days," but said he believed the science showing that human activity is driving climate change.

"I'm one of the few Republicans — that while I don't subscribe to the Green New Deal, and I think it's just silliness — I do believe we're experiencing global warming or climate change and I believe human activity is a significant contributor to that," he said.

Romney said it was crucial to develop new breakthrough technologies that would allow rapidly developing countries like China, India, Brazil and Indonesia to continue to grow their economies and cut their greenhouse gas output.

"If we want to reduce global emissions of carbon dioxide, the only way we're going to be able to do so is if we're able to show to the people in India and Brazil and China a way for them to generate power and to propel their economy," he said. "For that to happen, we've got to have some kind of innovation. We've got to have some breakthroughs to occur."

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