Proposed: The U.S. Climate Act of 202x

It is proposed that the U.S. reduce CO₂ emissions to zero over 30 years via a Climate Law with several provisions:

- U.S. states are required to reduce their CO₂ emissions by 1/30th of their current levels each year over 30 years.
- U.S. electricity is required to decarbonize at 6% per year, over a period of 9 years, at lowest cost. For example, 38% of electricity is made without emitting CO₂ today, 44% after year #1, 50% after year #2, etc.
- 3. A new R&D laboratory is set up to further reduce decarbonization costs.



The above provisions would cause U.S. CO₂ emission from burning carbon-based fuels to decrease to zero over 30 years, as illustrated in the graph. This strategy has two parts. The first 9 years are achieved mostly with electricity decarbonization. And the following 21 years are cost-reduced with R&D during the first 9 years. At this time, electricity is the only area that is ready to decarbonize at massive scales, at low cost, and with government monitoring.

How Much Would This Cost?

The U.S. emits approximately 5 billion tons of CO₂ each year. If this dropped to zero over 30 years, it would decrease by 170 million tons each year (5Gt / 30yrs). If one decarbonizes at \$40-per-ton of CO₂ reduced, for example, then 170M tons would cost \$7B in year #1 (170Mt x \$40), 340M tons would cost \$14B in year #2, etc. This would cost each U.S. citizen \$20 in year #1 (\$7Bt / 330M population), \$40 in year #2, \$60 in year #3, etc. In the typical case, this would pay the mortgage on new solar farms and new wind farms, minus the cost of carbon-based fuel that was not burned due to being replaced with green electricity. Ultimately, these expenses would appear as an increase in the cost of goods and services.

Further Reading

For a discussion of why this is the lowest cost solution, click here.

For a proposal that calculates the cost and impact of the proposed law, click here.

For a business plan for a new decarbonization R&D laboratory, click here.

Document History

This document draws its inspiration from a book entitled <u>A Plan to Save the Planet</u> by <u>Glenn Weinreb</u>.

For a free PDF file of this book, visit <u>www.APlanToSaveThePlanet.org/pdf</u>

For a TEDx video summary, search "<u>KIJsu2n5j1w</u>" at YouTube.

For YouTube videos by Weinreb, see www.YouTube.com/@GlobalClimateSolutions

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For original files, visit www.APlanToSaveThePlanet.org/da202x

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