

Evan Johnson

From: Dan Greaney <greaneys@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 14, 2019 9:50 AM
To: OPR Wildfire Commission
Subject: Public comment - carbon emission funds for wildfire costs

Thank you for holding your March 13 meeting in Shasta County, where wildfire policy is, not uniquely but emphatically, important to our lives. I appreciate the Wildfire Commission's pursuit of detailed information; the proceedings were a welcome education to me. I had to leave before I could address the commission at the end of the meeting, but will try to send my thoughts here.

I attended the meeting as a representative of North State Climate Action, a grassroots organization with 420 locals calling on our governments to take action to mitigate and adapt to climate change. Our thought pertinent to your inquiries is that **charging for carbon emissions** is a sensible way to help fund wildfire costs and recovery. Such a system has multiple benefits:

- It incentivizes moving away from fuels that promote climate change and further conflagrations.
- It socializes wildfire costs, proportional to contributions to those fires through carbon emissions.
- It produces funds that alleviate stresses on utilities, insurance, and ultimately the general public.

The state could assess these fees through adjustments to the existing cap and trade or perhaps a more streamlined fee structure.

Additionally, I would like to address the issue of fuel management. A common sight in our burned areas is surviving trees, many of them even retaining green leaves, right next to the concrete foundations of homes that have burned away. Buildings seem more combustible than much of the natural vegetation, and their residue is far more toxic and therefor more expensive to clean up, not to mention the human disruption of lost homes, businesses, and lives. Fire resistant roofs, vents and siding, along with exterior sprinklers have been effective in reducing the burning of structures. Up-front investment in fire resistance by builders--construction, homeowners, etc.--would reduce the costs of fires at least to built infrastructure.

Again, thank you for coming to Redding with your inquiries into wildfire cost management. Best wishes in your good work!

Dan Greaney
North State Climate Action