**Report on Citizens Climate Lobby for GSC 10/17/21**

**October 14, 2021**

1. Carbon Pricing Campaign for the White House. CCL national has determined that President Biden can be influential with Congress about what appears in the Reconciliation package. To that end they launched a campaign to promote the inclusion of carbon pricing with the president. Here is the link for that campaign:

[**https://community.citizensclimate.org/topics/reconciliation-actions**](https://community.citizensclimate.org/topics/reconciliation-actions)

1. Planning Meeting with Sam Hattrup (Cngressman Johonson’s Advisor on Energy Policy)

Dave Ballantyne and I are planning a meeting with Mr. Hattrup for early November. When we met with him last August, he suggested that date for our next meeting. We plan to focus on problem-solving and attempts to find common ground. We want to ask about Johnson’s role in the Congressional Problem Solving Caucus, of which he is a member. George hopes to gain some information from an October 24 webinar sponsored aby CCL and Braver Angels (a national group omitted to bridging the political divide) on climate change policy and share that information with Hattrup. We also want to ask about Johnson’s view of the Glasgow Summit, scheduled for November 1-3. Another question we have is whether Johnson is aware of the economic impact of the projects on renewable energy in western Ohio. We would like to request a face-to-face meeting with the congressmen some time after November. We have sent these agenda items to Hattrup.

1. Latest News on Reconciliation Bill

The new deadline for a final Reconciliation Bill is October 31. This final iteration of this much-debated bill will likely be significantly pared down from the initial $3.5 trillion package. Commentators and legislators who are prognosticating about what might be in the final package mention that climate change is likely to be included. This language will be described as a carbon tax, but it will, in fact, be in the form of a carbon dividend. There may be an exemption to the carbon tax/dividend for gasoline used by consumers (to conform with Biden’s promise not to raise taxes for those making <$400K/year). The door may be open for Joe Manchin to support a carbon tax of some kind, but Kirsten Sinema just announced that she will not support any kind of carbon tax in the Reconciliation Bill.

Senator Manchin announced on October 15 that he would not go along with Biden’s clean-energy plan (replacing cola, oil & gas with renewables).

1. Webinar on Republican Support for Carbon Fee

On October 9 I attended a webinar featuring Ray Ward, A Republican state legislator from Utah. He and some other Republican legislators from that state have written an op-ed in support of a carbon tax. Their position as Republicans is that polluters need to be responsible for the damage they produce, i.e., greenhouse gases. Once they are held responsible, then they products can be bought and they can operate within the free-market system.

George Banziger