

FACT SHEET: RAHALL CARBON TAX

AUDIO: “These days it seems like Washington can’t do anything right.”

“They’re supposed to be working for us. Are they?”

“Take Congressman Nick Rahall. He’s from West Virginia, but he voted for a budget that included the Carbon Tax.”

FACT: On March 20, 2013, Rep. Rahall voted for the “Grijalva of Arizona Substitute Amendment No. 3” (<http://clerk.house.gov/evs/2013/roll085.xml>) This was a vote on the Congressional Progressive Caucus’ “Back to Work Budget” (<http://cpc.grijalva.house.gov/back-to-work-budget/>).

FACT: According to the Progressive Caucus, “The Back to Work Budget would impose on polluters a \$25 per ton price on carbon dioxide (increasing at 5.6% a year), rebating 25% of all revenues as refundable credits to protect low income families.” (<http://cpc.grijalva.house.gov/uploads/Back%20to%20Work%20Budget%20-%20Executive%20Summary.pdf>)

FACT: When Rep. Garrett rose in opposition to the Amendment, he stated “So, today, we have a Progressive substitute on the floor. This budget will do what? It will raise taxes by almost \$6 trillion over the next 10 years, including a new tax on carbon. \$5.7 trillion in new taxes necessarily means greater tax burdens on who? The American family. These tax cuts put job creators in the penalty box again, and that means more Americans will be where? Without jobs.” (<http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/C?r113:./temp/~r1138GWvx3>)

FACT: The Center for American Progress explained that the Congressional Progressive Caucus’ budget “includes a carbon tax to increase funding for alternative energy methods and a public option to lower the cost of health care.” (<http://thinkprogress.org/economy/2013/03/14/1717621/progressive-caucus-budget/>)

FACT: The Washington Post’s Ezra Klein explained that the Back to Work Budget has massive tax increases including a carbon tax. He writes, “Investment on this scale will add trillions to the deficit. But the House Progressives have an answer for that: Higher taxes. About \$4.2 trillion in higher taxes over the next decade, to be exact. The revenues come from raising marginal tax rates on high-income individuals and corporations, but also from closing a raft of deductions as well as adding a financial transactions tax and a carbon tax.” (<http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/wonkblog/wp/2013/03/14/house-progressives-have-the-best-answer-to-paul-ryan/>)

AUDIO: “It’ll kill coal and West Virginia jobs.”

FACT: The National Association of Manufacturers (NAM) released a study by NERA Economic Consulting on the impacts of a \$20 a ton carbon tax which increases at 4 percent a year. This is lower than the carbon tax Rep. Rahall voted for. (<http://www.nam.org/Issues/Energy-and-Climate/Carbon-Tax.aspx>)

FACT: The NAM carbon tax study found that even with a lower carbon tax than the one Rep. Rahall voted for “The hardest hit economic sectors in West Virginia would be agriculture, which would lose between 2.6 and 3.4 percent in economic output, **coal, which would lose between 50.5 and 59.3 percent**, and energy-intensive manufacturing, which would lose 2.1 percent. (<http://www.nam.org/~media/1F708D21E64E4D4A80B9868E16B6906D.ashx>) [emphasis added]

FACT: The NAM carbon tax study also found “This tax would deal a blow to employment in West Virginia, with a loss of worker income equivalent to 35,000 to 40,000 jobs in 2013 and 18,000 to 24,000 by 2023.”

<http://www.nam.org/~media/1F708D21E64E4D4A80B9868E16B6906D.ashx>

FACT: According to the Congressional Budget Office, a \$21 per metric ton tax on carbon dioxide would increase electricity prices by 27 percent in West Virginia.

http://www.cbo.gov/sites/default/files/cbofiles/attachments/44223_Carbon_0.pdf p. 9)

AUDIO: “Why would he do that at a time when so many of us are just trying to make ends meet?”

FACT: Unemployment in West Virginia is currently at 6.2 percent. (<http://data.bls.gov/timeseries/LASST54000003>) This is higher unemployment than any pre-Great Recession levels since July 1999. (<http://data.bls.gov/timeseries/LASST54000003>)

AUDIO: "Call Congressman Rahall. Tell him any vote for the Carbon Tax is a vote against West Virginia."