

2013 — 01 Limit and Lower Pollution

The burning of all fossil fuels releases greenhouse gases and climate scientists agree that these gases are exacerbating global warming, threatening life on earth and must be drastically reduced.

Fossil fuels are cheaper than alternative energy sources because their true costs to the public in terms of pollution, health effects, and climate change are not taken into account. A fee on fossil fuels imposed at the source (mine, well, port) based on their carbon content would allow a true energy cost comparison.

A portion of the fees collected could be retained to fund research into energy efficiency and alternative energy. The remaining fee portion could be available for energy efficiency rebates and renewable energy installation rebates. These rebate dollars will allow citizens a choice between paying higher energy costs or saving rebate dollars by becoming more energy efficient which will reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Therefore be it resolved that the Minnesota Division, Izaak Walton League of America, in convention April 28, 2013, supports adoption of a fossil fuel fee and dividend system to reduce emission of greenhouse gases.

*Submitted by the Grand Rapids Wes Libbey Chapter
Dave Alban, President*

Reference: Hansen, James. Storms of My Grandchildren. 2009. (especially p205-222)