

## TOWN OF PENFIELD

3100 Atlantic Avenue, Penfield, New York 14526-9798

May, 2018

Hon. Mitch McConnell, Majority Leader Hon. Charles Schumer, Minority Leader Hon. Kirsten Gillibrand United States Senate

Hon. Paul Ryan, Majority Leader Hon. Nancy Pelosi, Minority Leader Representative for the 25<sup>th</sup> District, United States House of Representatives

Re: Carbon Fee and Dividend

Ladies and Gentlemen:

As citizens and municipal officials, the undersigned members of the Penfield Town Board recognize the effects from use of fossil fuels and its consequences for public health and the environment.

We support Congress exploring effective use of free-market mechanisms to help mitigate these effects by reviewing legislation for a Carbon Fee and Dividend ("CFD"). As a potential revenue-neutral means to promote transition to greater energy conservation and more renewable sources of energy it is possible a CFD would not burden citizens financially. Because the fee component as proposed would be levied uniformly, a CFD would be easier to administer than such alternatives as a cap and trade system.

A CFD would motivate conservation and promote renewable energy without extensive regulation by providing incentive to replace carbon-based fuel with sustainable sources of energy. This would promote energy efficiency and the use of less carbon-intensive fuels. This incentive could encourage innovation as well in the automobile industry, mass transportation, building design and construction, heating, lighting, air conditioning and in other industries.

Moreover, by incentivizing development of alternative energy sources and related technologies, a CFD could minimize or eliminate the need for government subsidies that, often ineffectively, attempt to forecast alternative energy successes and failures.

It is estimated that the dividend component of a CFD could benefit approximately 70 percent of American households, putting money into local economies and creating jobs.

For these reasons we ask the Congress of the United States to consider a Carbon Fee and Dividend that would reduce emissions and not financially burden citizens.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

R. Anthony LaFountain Town Supervisor

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Andy Moore Deputy Supervisor

Paula Metzler

Town Councilmember

Linda Kohl

Town Councilmember

Rob Quinn

Town Councilmember