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Dear Sir:

In your leader, *Seize the Day*, wherein you advocated that governments tax carbon emissions and fossil fuel use, you dismiss the very real notion of the negative economic implications of such a policy as an “excuse” made by politicians. To be sure, a tax on carbon will make it more expensive for families to heat their homes, purchase food, and drive to work—assuming they still have a job. A carbon tax will not only hurt energy industries—coal, natural gas, and oil—but will also decrease competitiveness for industries that depend upon the energy they produce. Our tractors, trucks, planes, ships, and factories still run on fossil fuels. We should welcome innovation in renewables and energy efficiency that will lower their prices, ameliorate their intermittency, and reduce our carbon footprint; however, for the foreseeable future, fossil fuels are necessary to provide the vast majority of global energy needs and their affordable costs will thus remain an important catalyst for economic growth.

Sincerely yours,



Leonard K. Peters
Secretary

LKP:wh