

RFF Connection



RESOURCES
FOR THE FUTURE

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RFF Connection is a regular newsletter from Resources for the Future that alerts subscribers to new RFF research and policy analysis on environmental, energy, natural resource, and public health issues, forthcoming events, and selected media highlights.

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Climate Impacts on Energy Markets: An Outsider's Perspective



Planners in the public and private sectors need to be aware of not only the economic policy challenges facing energy markets, Senior Fellow Tim Brennan asserts, but also the climate policies with which they have to cope. [Read the full feature.](#)

Plugging Cap-and-Trade into California's Electricity Sector

Researchers Karen Palmer, Dallas Burtraw, and Anthony Paul address the options for regulating California's electricity sector within the context of a statewide, and possibly regional, cap-and-trade program that also covers other sectors. [Read the full feature.](#)

Liability in the Space Business



If a privately owned rocket falls to the ground after being launched under government auspices, who pays for the damages? The answer to that question, which will influence the development of future commercial space enterprises, is explored by RFF researchers in a new discussion paper. [Read the full feature.](#)

New Research from RFF

[Fuel Tax Incidence in Developing Countries: The Case of Costa Rica](#)

[U.S. Emissions Trading Markets for SO₂ and NO_x](#)

[An Experimental Study of Auctions versus Grandfathering to Assign Pollution Permits](#)

Media Highlights

State Parks Juggle More Visitors With Budget Cuts

October 30, 2009, *National Public Radio*

In a segment on the impact of reduced funding on U.S. parks, NPR's Morning Edition cited the recent RFF report "The State of the Great Outdoors," noting that "parks and recreation does suffer a disproportionate share of the budget cuts." During the last recession, the story said, "local spending declined up to two percent, but cuts to parks and recreation were deeper - up to 13 percent." [Read the full story.](#)

New Regs Could Spark Auto Emissions Market

October 21, 2009, *National Journal*

A carbon-trading mechanism included in the Obama Administration's new emissions standards for automobiles marks the first time car companies can trade credits for carbon emissions. The program might be flexible enough for companies to comply without resorting to inter-company trading, according to RFF Senior Fellow Carolyn Fischer. [Read the full story.](#)

Save the Date

November 18, 2009

[Environmental Diplomacy Leading to Copenhagen](#)

Weekly Policy Commentary

[Ethics and Discounting Global Warming Damages](#)

by Cameron Hepburn

weathervane RFF's Climate Policy Blog

Check out Weathervane's new [daily updates](#) on climate and energy news from around the web.

[Oil's Part in the Financial Crisis](#) by John Anderson

[The Chinese Straw Man](#) by Andrew Stevenson

Publications



Resources Fall 2009

Researcher Spotlight



Tim Brennan looks back at marketplace changes in the electrical sector under federal regulatory policies. [Watch the video.](#)

About RFF

RFF improves environmental and natural resources policymaking worldwide through objective social science research of the highest caliber.

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