

A Year in Review

From carbon taxes to shale gas, from state parks to environmental regulations, 2012–2013 was a remarkable year for research, analysis, and outreach at RFF. Below are a few samples of the contributions RFF researchers made in the past year.



RFF researcher Alan Krupnick at the November First Wednesday Seminar on the future of fuel

THE FUTURE OF FUEL

The cost-effectiveness and greenhouse gas emissions of unconventional and traditional fuel options, for both cars and heavy-duty trucks, were the topic of new work and presentations by RFF researchers throughout the year.



The Energy Efficiency Paradox and Trucking



Past Trends of Fuel Consumption and GHG Emissions from Heavy-Duty Trucking



The Future of Fuel: Toward the Next Decade of US Energy Policy

FUNDING FOR PARKS

RFF researchers explored and discussed creative approaches to funding America's state and national park systems.



Building a More Sustainable Future for America's National Parks



Dedicated Funds for State Parks: Designing the Right Approach

CONSIDERING A CARBON TAX

Researchers at RFF sought to answer questions from industry and government officials about how a carbon tax in the United States could impact the environment and the economy. The following questions, among others, helped to frame this work (read more on pages 26–31).

» *How does a carbon tax compare with other policies to reduce greenhouse gases?*



Choosing among Carbon Mitigation Policies: Carbon Tax, Emissions Trading, or Traditional Regulation



Comparing Action on Climate Change in a Post-Kyoto World

» *What are the economic effects?*



Economic Effects of Carbon Taxes



Taxing Carbon: Potential Deficit and Emissions Reductions

» *What can be done to reduce the impacts on energy-intensive, trade-exposed (EITE) industries?*



Options for Mitigating Adverse Carbon Tax Impacts on EITE Industries



Ensuring Competitiveness under a US Carbon Tax

» *Do tax interactions outweigh international carbon leakage?*

Climate Policy and Fiscal Constraints: Do Tax Interactions Outweigh Carbon Leakage?

» *What role can a carbon tax play in reforming the US tax code?*

Comprehensive Tax Reform and Climate Policy

Tax Reform: Impact on US Energy Policy

» *How will consumers be affected by a carbon tax?*

Answering Questions about a Carbon Tax: How New Natural Gas Supplies Impact the Electricity Sector



RFF's Dallaw Burtraw and Leonard Shabman at the December First Wednesday Seminar on the merits of market-based environmental programs

ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATIONS AND MARKETS

RFF researchers examined the costs and benefits of environmental regulations and market-based policies, hosting workshops about the impact on the electricity sector and how to improve future policy design.

Whither Markets for Environmental Regulation of Air, Water, and Land?

CSAPR & MATS: Is Coal Doomed?



Carlton Owen of the US Endowment for Forestry and Communities at the October First Wednesday Seminar on the Forest Health Initiative

BIOTECHNOLOGY AND GEOENGINEERING

RFF hosted several events, convening a range of experts to discuss the economic impact of labeling genetically modified foods, the role that biotechnology can play in improving the health of forests, and the potential implications of geoengineering.

Agricultural Biotechnology and the Environment: Perspectives on the Next 10 Years

The Next Decade in Forest Health and Policy: A Role for Biotechnology?

Geoengineering: Time for Some Gentle Experimentation

SHALE GAS DEVELOPMENT

RFF researchers examined how shale gas development can impact US energy security and presented findings from the first survey-based, statistical analysis of shale gas experts to identify the environmental risks most frequently cited as priorities for further regulatory or voluntary action.

Hydraulic Fracturing: Bridge to a Clean Energy Future?

Shale Gas: Twelve Pathways to Dialogue

presentation video article or paper