CCL Letter to the editor

In a recent Milwaukee Journal article researchers at the University of Wisconsin reported how green house gas emissions through the year 2030 will eventually result in a climate similar to 3 million years ago, when sea levels were 60 feet higher. More heat waves, more intense storms, more wildfires, these have all been reported numerous times before. I worry about these and feel immensely guilty as I slide back in my hot tub and ruminate how dire the future will be for our children. But do I take action, well sort of, and sort of not. Its tough to change lifestyles based on the future when things here in Wisconsin keep chugging along- the changes here stealthily creep up rather than knock us over with hurricane winds or track us down with fire.

There is a solution though that I am excited about! The Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act has been introduced by a bipartisan group of congressmen in the US House of Representatives. This bill raises fees on fossil fuels as they come out of the ground and returns those fees to all of us in monthly rebates. The fees raise the prices on oil, gas, coal etc., to more closely reflect their long term cost to all of us. As those costs rise, the free market will give us new cleaner solutions.

The Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act is Effective- it will reduce carbon emissions 45% by 2030. It is good for the economy- it grows the GDP and jobs. Its good for people- it saves 10,000 lives from the reduced pollution, not to mention saving the planet. Its bipartisan- it is bringing together the republicans and democrats on an issue of world importance, that can only be good in this time of ultra party polarization. And its revenue neutral, no new spending and costly regulation. I am sincerely hoping my new representative, Bryan Steil of the 1st congressional district will join other republicans and democrats in supporting this bill.