

## Paul Belanger

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**Subject:** Feb. 15th EEE Forum: Geoengineering and Carbon Pricing: Two Responses to Climate Change  
**Attachments:** 2015.02.16 SRM con USToday.jpeg; 2015.02.16 SRM pro USToday.jpeg; 2015.03.09 Notes for carbon tax vs. cap & trade.docx

**From:** David Carlson [mailto:davidcarlson824@gmail.com]

**Sent:** Thursday, January 21, 2016 8:11 PM

**To:**...

**Subject:** Feb. 15th EEE Forum: Geoengineering and Carbon Pricing: Two Responses to Climate Change

Dear Friends of the Ethics and Ecological Economics Forum,

The theme of the February 15<sup>th</sup> EEE Forum is **Geoengineering and Carbon Pricing: Two Responses to Climate Change**. As usual, we will meet at the Iliff School of Theology at 2323 E. Iliff Avenue. Our specific room space is not yet confirmed, however. Please note that we will be meeting on the third Monday of February (2:00-4:15pm).

**Jonathan Ormes**, DU Research Professor in Physics and Astronomy, will review the basics of geo-engineering (i.e., climate altering) strategies and facilitate group discussion on their merits and limitations. Solar Radiation Management (SRM) strategies reflect a portion of the sun's rays back into space (by shooting sulfur dioxide particles in the atmosphere, for example), while Carbon Dioxide Removal (CDR) approaches remove CO<sub>2</sub> from the atmosphere and store it underground or in soils as biochar, for example.

For a short, nontechnical overview of both strategies, see "Fact or Fiction?: Geoengineering Can Solve Global Warming" by **David Biello**, an award-winning environment and energy reporter for *Science American*. Available at [http://www.scientificamerican.com/article/fact-or-fiction-geoengineering-can-solve-global-warming/?WT.mc\\_id=SA\\_ENGYSUS\\_20141218](http://www.scientificamerican.com/article/fact-or-fiction-geoengineering-can-solve-global-warming/?WT.mc_id=SA_ENGYSUS_20141218).

For two brief point-counterpoint perspectives on SRM, see the attached scanned articles from *USA Today*. And for more information on SRM and CDR separately, see these recent publications by the National Academy of Sciences online: *Climate Intervention: Reflecting Sunlight to Cool Earth* (2015), at <http://www.nap.edu/read/18988>; and *Climate Intervention: Carbon Dioxide Removal and Reliable Sequestration* (2015), at <http://www.nap.edu/read/18805>. Start with the brief Preface, and then the Summary, if you would like more.

After a brief break, **Phil Nelson**, retired geologist and leader of the Golden Chapter of the Citizens' Climate Lobby, will review the growing support from the public and private sector for setting a price on carbon emissions. Questions for discussion include: *What are the prospects for enacting federal legislation on climate change? What pressures now exist for legislation? What form does resistance take? How might that resistance be persuaded to go along with legislation?*

For a brief comparison of cap-and-trade vs. carbon tax (or fee) approaches, see the one-page attachment by **David Carlson**. Additional information is referenced and available online on this one-page overview.

More than 30 persons attended our January 11<sup>th</sup> EEE Forum on the theme, "After the Paris Climate Change Conference, What Lies Ahead?" Thanks to **Paul Belanger**, materials distributed at this Forum, plus archived Forum meetings and associated attachments, are available on the EEE web page at [http://denverclimatestudygroup.com/?page\\_id=683](http://denverclimatestudygroup.com/?page_id=683).

**Ron Larson** provided this link to a post-Paris video interview with **Todd Stern**, the Special Envoy for Climate Change at the State Department since 2009 and chief negotiator for the U.S. position on climate change at international conferences: <https://www.americanprogress.org/events/2015/12/04/126751/the-road-through-paris-us-special-envoy-for-climate-change-todd-stern-on-the-2015-un-climate-conference/>

And, if you can't wait until February 15th to learn more about carbon pricing, the Alliance for Sustainable Colorado is hosting a free, two-hour program on "Carbon Markets, the Carbon Economy & What It Means for You" on **Tuesday, February 2nd**, 5:30-7:30pm. The event is free, but you must RSVP. For more information and to register, visit <http://www.sustainablecolorado.org/what-we-do/alliance-events/#anchor11>

As always, your RSVP is requested but not required. Feel free to forward this invitation to others who may be interested.

David Carlson, EEE Forum Convener

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