TAX ALL LAND

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Revenues from a fee for each ton of carbo equivalent should be returned to all individuals, according to John F. Nagle's Jan. 19 letter to the editor ("Fee and Dividend'). This additional cost of fossil fuel would decrease its use, which would be beneficial, but its increased cost would reduce or abolish this source of revenue, which is collected by governments.

The same limitation applies to a "sin tax" such as on tobacco products and alcoholic beverages. Increased cost for the users reduces the revenue from these sources.

I believe that governments should pay a dividend to individuals only after all of the undesirable taxes have been abolished.

They include taxes on earnings and on sales. These detrimental revenue sources can be replaced by increasing the currently nonexistent or insufficient taxation of individual and corporate owners of valuable land.

This desirable policy would counteract the excessive wealth of a small proportion of individuals and corporations. It would apply to all government levels, especially the federal government. The additional revenue would continue to fund governments even after production of fossil fuels has ceased. <<