

Virtue Rewarded

The carbon cashback income from Cap and Share compensates us for energy price rises - at least, it does overall. But it turns out that if you have a lower carbon footprint than the national average, you'll come out *ahead*: your cashback payments will more than compensate for any price rises. You'll only be worse off if you have a higher than average carbon footprint.

This is only fair: the atmosphere belongs to us all (if it belongs to anyone at all), and those who are responsible for dumping more CO_2 into it ought to pay more to do so. Cap and Share makes this happen automatically, without any need for an accounting of all our carbon footprints, since the permit costs are built in to all the carbon-intensive activities we might indulge in.

Cap and Share also levels the playing field for renewables, whose prices are unaffected by the cost of permits. We don't need to subsidize renewables, just to remove subsidies for fossil fuels (both direct subsidies to the fossil fuel industries and letting them dump CO_2 into the air for free).