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*Here are some reasons why people might argue that the federal carbon tax **is not** an effective way for Canada to address environmental concerns.*

It's making life harder for rural Canadians

Canadians are no strangers to the challenges brought about by inflation and the rising cost of living. The carbon tax not only makes these problems worse, but it also has a larger effect in remote areas, where many heat their households with gas, and most are reliant on gas-powered cars in order to go about their daily lives. While the revenues from the carbon tax are redistributed to citizens quarterly, families have to wait for months to see money back in their pocket, even as they are currently struggling to pay bills and buy groceries.

It undermines provincial governments

Canada is a federation, which means that the federal and provincial governments share different powers and responsibilities. By imposing a one-size-fits-all approach to fighting climate change on the provinces, the federal government has taken away their ability to come up with plans that are appropriate for the people who live there, and that likely would have been more popular with their residents.

It's not fair if other countries don't have similar policies

Canadians care deeply about protecting the environment, and do much more than their part in combating climate change. Meanwhile, the citizens of countries that emit many more greenhouse gasses - like the United States, China and Russia - are free to pollute without consequences. If the Canadian government truly wants to address climate change, it should hold these countries accountable, rather than its own citizens.

Large companies are not paying their share

While the carbon tax has had an impact in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, it disproportionately affects regular citizens when compared to companies that emit the most. [Models show](#) that the industrial price on carbon emissions - which only affects companies - has a much bigger effect on reducing overall emissions than the consumer price on carbon - which affects individuals.

Read more:

- [Carbon tax going up, housing affordability going down, building experts](#)
- ['It makes no sense': Trudeau government promised rural residents a carbon rebate top-up - so why aren't these people getting it?](#)