*Former Congressman Bob Inglis represented Greenville-Spartanburg, South Carolina from 1992-1998 and 2004-2010. Inglis is the founder and executive director of Energy and Enterprise Initiative and republicEN.org, which promote climate change solutions through a conservative, free market lens. The following excerpt is from a talk Inglis gave in September 2017 at Carnegie Council for Ethics in International Affairs.* ***The talk has been modified for the classroom.***

**How can we mitigate the effects of climate change while also staying true to conservative values?**

…The thing to do is to make it apparent in the marketplace what the costs of energy are, and eliminate all the subsidies, and have a level playing field and a strong competition. If you do that, we can fix climate change…For example, we at [republicEn.org](http://www.republicen.org/about_us/principles) would say, "No more electric car credits. No more production tax credit for wind. No more investment tax credits for solar. Certainly no more direct subsidies like [Solyndra](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Solyndra) was. No more"—and then this gets a little bit dicier when we are talking to fellow conservatives—"under-market [less than market value] leases on public land for the extraction of minerals."

…Then we get to the hardest one: No more of the biggest subsidy of them all…which is the ability for me at Inglis Industries Coal-Fired Electricity [hypothetical company] to just let my soot and my CO2 go into the atmosphere without any accountability. [Why is that a subsidy?] Because it lets me put that cost onto society and not keep it on my product and reflect it in my product's price.

…You see, if I am Inglis Coal-Fired Electricity, I'm selling you electricity that looks cheap when it comes to your power meter. But what is not reflected on there is the people who are coughing up their lungs at the hospital because of my soot that I'm getting away with socializing [spreading among the people] and the cost I am putting on future generations for the climate change…

1. Why does Inglis argue that releasing pollutants into the air untaxed is a form of a government subsidy? Do you agree or disagree with his logic?

1. Why is Inglis’ plan considered to be "conservative"?
2. How likely do you think it is that policies like this will be implemented? Explain your rationale.

1. The Trump administration announced [relaxed coal regulations](https://www.nytimes.com/2018/08/21/climate/epa-coal-pollution-deaths.html) in 2018 that are estimated by the EPA to result in 470 to 1,400 more premature deaths a year by 2030. How would Inglis' proposed policy respond to this?