

# EC1340 – Fall 2016

Problem set 3b

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The object of this assignment is to use what you have learned in the course to assess the reasonableness/truthfulness of a claim made in the popular press about climate change or climate change policy.

A useful model for what I have in mind are the ‘fact-checking’ columns that now appear in some local papers, including the Providence journal. You can look at a few recent columns here: <http://www.politifact.com/rhode-island/>.

A little more specifically,

1. Find an article making a claim about the effects of climate change or climate policy. Here are two examples that struck me as good candidates:

- [http://www.brown.edu/Departments/Economics/Faculty/Matthew\\_Turner/ec1340/problems\\_and\\_exams/ProJo\\_Burrilville\\_Power\\_Plant\\_20151113.pdf](http://www.brown.edu/Departments/Economics/Faculty/Matthew_Turner/ec1340/problems_and_exams/ProJo_Burrilville_Power_Plant_20151113.pdf)
- [http://www.brown.edu/Departments/Economics/Faculty/Matthew\\_Turner/ec1340/problems\\_and\\_exams/NatGeo\\_Feb2015.pdf](http://www.brown.edu/Departments/Economics/Faculty/Matthew_Turner/ec1340/problems_and_exams/NatGeo_Feb2015.pdf)

They each make at least one claim about what is going to happen with climate change and/or the costs of this change. These claims can be assessed with what you have learned in the course plus, maybe, some independent research.

2. After you choose an article/claim to evaluate, check with me to make sure it is OK.
3. Write a ‘fact checking’ article for the article/claim you select. It should probably not need to be more than two pages long. Try to use a lot of the numbers we’ve developed in class.