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AFP GA ACTIVISTS FIRE FIRST MAJOR SHOT AGAINST OBAMA'S 'WAR ON CONSUMER ENERGY' AGENDA - BY DR. JAMES RUST

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I have long believed "Those who don't learn from history are doomed to repeat it."

In times like these, as we celebrate America's Independence, thoughts go back to the founding of this great nation and the tribulations of the American Revolution. The first shot fired in the conflict of 1775 is called "The shot heard around the world", largely driven by the Colonial Americans' disdain for the unfair taxation by Great Britain.

There is a similar fight underway in America's energy sector today. At his speech on climate change at Georgetown University, June 25, 2013, President Obama said, "So today, for the sake of our children, and the health and safety of all Americans, I'm directing the Environmental Protection Agency to put an end to the limitless dumping of carbon pollution from our power plants, and complete new pollution standards for both new and existing power plants." These remarks are intended to further the eventual elimination of coal for electric power generation. Other fossil fuels may soon become targets as well.

There is an encyclopedic amount of peer-reviewed literature challenging President Obama's view that carbon dioxide from burning fossil fuel causes global warming. Paraphrasing poet Elizabeth Barrett Browning, "How much information refutes carbon dioxide-caused global warming. Let me count the ways." A good start are the two reports by the Nongovernmental International Panel on Climate Change—Climate Change Reconsidered and Climate Change Reconsidered: 2011 Interim Report published by The Heartland Institute. These reports published in 2009 and 2011 contain over 1200 pages and are available [online](#).

The war on fossil fuels causes increased taxes and electricity costs for all Americans with a severe decline in living standards. Georgia suddenly finds itself at the center, leading the response against President Obama's hostility toward fossil fuels. It may very well be the proverbial 'shot heard round the world', the first in a nationwide pushback against the President's ruinous energy policies.

On July 11, our Georgia Public Service Commission is scheduled to make a ruling on whether to force Georgia Power Company to add 500 megawatts of solar energy to its energy supply. Georgia has the opportunity to send a clear message to President Obama by defeating his promotion of expensive, unreliable solar energy on Georgia's citizens with the end-goal of eliminating the use of economically efficient, reliable fossil fuels. Supporters for President Obama's agenda are lining up – environmental groups, promoters of renewable energy mandates and other protestors of the use of fossil fuels. Americans For Prosperity Georgia activists and coalition groups are leading a charge for common sense use of economically efficient, reliable energy with [letter writing](#) campaigns, internet videos and more, urging PSC members to vote NO on renewable energy mandates in Georgia. A "win" in this fight may very well christen AFP GA activists as the modern-day "Minutemen" firing "the shot heard around the world" against energy mandates and bring about the ultimate defeat of President Obama's misguided and debilitating energy policies.

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