National climate policy in a global, economic and environmental perspective

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Abstract:

By means of a dynamic CGE model for Norway, we address two inter-jurisdictional concerns of unilateral environmental taxes in an open economy. The first is whether international competitiveness is shifted towards relative tax havens; the second is whether pollution leakages abroad tend to moderate the global sustainability of national environmental policies. We account for a regressed relationship between growth and CO₂ policy in projections for the Norwegian economy, which results in a 25 percent abatement in CO₂ emissions, along with substantial co-benefits in terms of emission reductions in other components. This is achieved at the expense of significant losses of competitiveness for the Norwegian labour-intensive industries gain market shares, primarily at home. Our abatement achievements also come at another cost: the emission reductions are modified, though far from offset, by increased emissions for our trade partners.

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Keywords:

Climate policy; Dynamic CGE Model, Endogenous Policy; Environmental Kuznets Curve; Pollution leakage.

JEL classification: D58; O11; Q25; Q28; Q48

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