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One way to think about environmentalism is "caring for creation" -- being good stewards of our natural resources.

- We know that Native Americans have special ways of honoring Mother Earth.
- Pope Francis has urged Catholics around the world to care for creation through his Laudato Si proclamation.
- In my community, volunteers honor the earth by harvesting vegetables for a local Food Bank. Other volunteers pick up litter from parks and beaches.

That is a long introduction, because I don't want to say the next part. So, I'll let National Geographic magazine say it for me: "Our failure to address climate change is trashing the planet." That is a quote from the 2020 Earth Day issue, as is this: "Even if we were to start cutting emissions today, the problem of climate change would continue to grow."

It's hard to see how extracting resources from one side of the globe and shipping them 5,000 miles is responsible stewardship -- especially when air quality is degraded by tons of greenhouse emissions over 40 years.

As climate change is catching up with us, we need to reduce our consumption and focus on local and sustainable sourcing. We need to take a longer view.

A huge methanol refinery is neither local, sustainable, or prudent. To protect our State, region, and climate, I urge Ecology to deny this project. Thank you.