

Opinion

Letter: We need to embrace clean energy sources

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We need to embrace clean energy sources

Chicken Little's perception that "the sky is falling" gets a stiff challenge in the absurdity category from the letter claiming that wind turbines will "destroy life" on the Ontario lakeshore. Throughout the world, including many places in New York State (Lackawanna, Tug Hill, etc.) people are living in harmony with clean energy sources like wind turbines and solar panels.

Fossil fuel interests understand that the transition to clean energy threatens their profits. They are spreading disinformation to build on the fear of change in order to undercut this much-needed transition. To hear such exaggerated distortions repeated within my own community is embarrassing to me.

In his encyclical, "Laudato Si," Pope Francis states: "The climate is a common good, belonging to all and meant for all ... A very solid scientific consensus indicates that we are presently witnessing a disturbing warming of the climatic system." The pope, along with a growing collection of religious leaders from many faiths, is urging us to meet the moral challenge of climate change with a spirit of resolve, compassion, generosity and clarity.

Wind is humanity's most potent non-nuclear source of electricity that doesn't generate greenhouse gases. Wind is strongest in or near bodies of water, whose smooth surfaces allow wind to build speed. Let's stand with the farmers and other property owners near Lake Ontario who are making their land available for clean energy. Let's back off on fear, and doomsday rhetoric and join together to meet the real challenge of climate change – the moral issue of our time.

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