

Syracuse 04/27/2022

Good afternoon. ~~My name~~ is Sister Eileen O'Connor. I'm a Catholic nun and part of the interfaith Climate Justice Community, an advocacy group of committed citizens representing many faiths, working hard to respect and protect the world we've all been given by our creator. We know that all faiths are rooted in love, and all faiths care for creation. We are passionate about environmental justice. We appreciate the initial framework for how New York State ~ these are your words ~ " will reduce greenhouse gas emissions and achieve net-zero emissions, increase renewable energy usage, and ensure climate justice. "

I do not have children of my own, nor, of course grandchildren. But no doubt most of you do. I want you to know that I care as much <sup>as you do</sup> about the future of your children and grandchildren ~~as you do~~, and as I do about my many nieces and nephews and grandnieces and grandnephews. I want them ~ and all our children ~ to grow up in a clean, green, fresh air, clean river, healthy home, healthy environment.

We know that each of us has a role to play in protecting our communities and ensuring a sustainable future for everyone. We're committed to doing our part. We're ready to support your efforts toward lowering harmful emissions in the air we breath while transforming New York's economy, creating new jobs, and building more resilient communities. That's our dream. That's our pledge.

We're here to help. Thank you.

246 words