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Abstract for an Invited Paper for the APR21 Meeting of the American Physical Society

Needed Now: A Vision for Earth on Cosmic Time SANDRA FABER, University of California at Santa Cruz

Humans and our technology are now clearly in command of our planet, and this is likely the default state going forward absent massive economic and environmental collapse. Yet human ethics devalues the future generally, and thoughts of what Earth and ourselves might ultimately become are barely mentioned. We argue that the crucial ingredient now missing from the environmental movement is a moral compass for the future based on a shared vision for humanity and Earth on cosmic time. Humans are now writing the story of Earth. We need to think about the ending now.