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From:
Eric J. Lakits
Westland, MI

To:
Letter to the Editor
USA Today

The recent clash between the EPA and chemical companies serves to illustrate how environmentalism and socialism have the same political agendas. Both wish to violate the rights of individuals by sacrificial means. Environmentalists ask us to sacrifice for the sake of a pristine nature untouched by man, and socialists ask us to sacrifice for the collective good. The influence of both groups is evident in the recent conflict between the EPA and the chemical companies.

The EPA is now attempting to enforce its environmental dictates by forcing companies to divulge private information for the public good. The public has no more a need nor a right to know what these companies are doing than they have a need or a right to know what is going on in the homes of private citizens. For sure, there is not such thing as a "public" right, only the right of private individuals. This right includes the right to prosecute and/or collect damages only in the event that it can be shown that one has suffered demonstrable harm and can prove who did it.

The time is long overdue for everyone to finally realize that it is the advancements of modern technology, made possible by the industrial revolution, that have made our increased life-span and standard of living possible. As Ayn Rand stated in her book, *The New Left: The Anti-Industrial Revolution*, "Anyone over 30 years of age today, give a silent 'Thank you' to the nearest, grimmest, sootiest smokestacks you can find."

Eric J. Lakits
Westland, MI