

Whatcom County Council Members,

As a Whatcom County resident, constituent and former oil industry professional I ask that you vote to extend the current moratorium. Now that the legal study has been delivered you will need the time to fully understand the limits and draft comprehensive legislation limiting the development of new facilities and/or upgrading facilities and prevent Whatcom County from becoming the west coast center for unrefined fossil fuels.

Lifting the moratorium now would undermine the purpose and value of the legal study; this would also allow various companies to obtain vested rights and exemptions from future regulations.

My wife and I, as Whatcom County stakeholders support your efforts to protect and preserve our natural resources and overall quality of life.

As Stewards, our local environment is one of the assets that we are responsible for protecting from any further potential destruction that will be caused by inherent risks of exporting raw materials through Cherry Point.

Thank you,

Dirk Vermeeren
Oil Industry Professional, Retired
Bellingham, WA

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