

From: [Council](#)
To: [Barbara Brenner](#); [Barry Buchanan](#); [Rud Browne](#); [Satpal Sidhu](#); [Timothy Ballew](#); [Todd Donovan](#); [Tyler Byrd](#)
Cc: [Becky Boxx](#); [Matt Aamot](#); [Mark Personius](#)
Subject: FW: Cherry Point Amendments
Date: Wednesday, August 08, 2018 1:05:31 PM

From: Mike and Kristina Heintz [mailto:mikeheintz@msn.com]
Sent: Wednesday, August 08, 2018 1:03 PM
To: Council
Subject: Cherry Point Amendments

SUBJECT LINE: Cherry Point amendments

Honorable Councilmembers,

Thank you for your service to our community.

I am writing to comment on the Cherry Point amendments you will be considering at tonight's meeting. We have to transition to a carbon-free Renewable Energy portfolio now! Climate change is real and we can no longer foster any non-renewable energy systems with their inherent environmental risks & harmful CO2 emissions. I completely agree with ReSources Clean Energy recommendations below and ask you to support them in full:

I implore you to strengthen standards and conditions for project permits in the Cherry Point UGA, to protect our communities from the burden of risk and adverse impacts on health and safety from transporting heavy crude oil and other hazardous materials through Whatcom County.

Oil companies have gotten a free pass in this county for over 60 years. We've had our fair share of risks and hazards from oil trains, tankers and pipelines. It's time that Whatcom County started making conditions and standards to protect public safety and the environment.

New facilities to ship coal, oil or gas should be prohibited, and existing facilities should be held to the highest standards for safety and pollution control. Permits for upgrades must require SEPA EIS review of cumulative impacts with a greenhouse gas life-cycle analysis, total mitigation of climate pollution, and conditions to require no adverse impacts on herring, salmon, orca, or other endangered species. In 2012-13, Whatcom County permitted two oil-by-rail unloading facilities which have brought near-daily shipments of >100-unit explosive tank cars through Bellingham and Ferndale, without requiring an environmental impacts study. Projects such as these highlight the inadequacy of County procedures to reasonably protect our communities from unacceptable hazards.

Cherry Point is at risk again of becoming a transshipment point to load tankers with 'tar sands' heavy crude oil from Canada's Trans Mountain (Puget Sound) Pipeline, which would increase the risk of an oil spill in endangered species' habitat and on our beloved shorelines of the Salish Sea.

Furthermore, it is a waste of county resources to process or approve project permits without prior federal authorization for compliance with treaty-protected tribal fishing rights and laws such as the Marine Mammal Protection Act. Please ensure that our tax dollars are not again wasted on reviewing and permitting unlawful projects, as was done for Gateway Pacific Terminal.

Thank you for your time & consideration,

Kristina & Mike Heintz
Bellingham

Get [Outlook for Android](#)