

From: [Council](#)
To: [Barbara Brenner](#); [Barry Buchanan](#); [Carol Frazey](#); [Rud Browne](#); [Satpal Sidhu](#); [Todd Donovan](#); [Tyler Byrd](#)
Cc: [Matt Aamot](#); [Mark Burnfield](#); [Ashley Ubil](#); [Becky Boxx](#)
Subject: FW: Cherry Point UGA Draft Code Amendments
Date: Monday, July 08, 2019 8:25:02 AM

From: wendy courtemanche [mailto:wcourte94@yahoo.com]
Sent: Friday, July 05, 2019 6:55 PM
To: Council
Cc: Rud Browne; Carol Frazey; Todd Donovan; Barry Buchanan; Barbara Brenner; Tyler Byrd; Satpal Sidhu
Subject: Re: Cherry Point UGA Draft Code Amendments

Dear County Council Members,

I support the ban on new fossil fuel terminals or transshipment facilities in the most recent draft of the code amendments for Cherry Point but I have significant concerns about the lack of regulation for permitting of existing facilities.

Whatcom County residents have now lived with two refineries and the Alcoa plant for many years and during that time these plants have been shown to produce significant pollution. I believe that conditional use permits should be required for upgrades, changes, and expansions at these facilities based on their impacts on the local environment and human health. The refineries and Alcoa should be held to high standards through enforceable regulations that aim to protect air and water quality, human health, and endangered species like herring, salmon, and orca. The existing facilities should be required to use the best available technology to reduce pollution and risks, as well as reduce water usage and energy consumption.

Whatcom County has the authority to regulate these expansion projects, require mitigation of impacts including cumulative impacts, and request an EIS to evaluate potential impacts. Up to now the existing Cherry Point facilities have for the most part not been subject to this type of regulation and it is the local environment and the local population that has had to live with the results – including, for just one example, the risks posed by increased oil trains.

Based on this concern, I propose that the current draft of the code amendments needs more work and more public input and should not be passed in its current form.

Thank you for your time and attention to this issue,

Wendy Courtemanche
Bellingham