

**From:** [Council](#)  
**To:** [Matt Aamot](#); [Mark Personius](#); [Ashley Ubil](#); [Becky Boxx](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Cherry Point UGA amendments  
**Date:** Monday, July 08, 2019 8:25:47 AM

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-----Original Message-----

From: Deborah J. Cruz [<mailto:dwcruz@comcast.net>]  
Sent: Saturday, July 06, 2019 11:01 AM  
To: Satpal Sidhu; Barry Buchanan; Todd Donovan; Rud Browne; Tyler Byrd; Carol Frazey; Barbara Brenner  
Cc: Council  
Subject: Cherry Point UGA amendments

You know, in 2010, I came to be aware of the proposed GPT coal proposal out at Cherry Point. I was horrified, but I have worked my ass off since to ensure that Cherry Point and the outlying Salish Sea waterways, land and air are protected.

We defeated the coal terminal.

We pressed forward to halt expansions of the fossil fuel industries being forced upon us left and right, up and down the PNW coastline and interiors, our beloved Salish Sea. We've defeated them all so far.

I even rewrote the Cherry Point section of the UGA. So did Carl Weimer.

So did you.

We, you and me, put enormous effort against some overwhelming odds, to make substantial changes in how we perceive and our hopes for Cherry Point and the rest of the Salish Sea. We were moving forward.

I applauded the moratoriums and the efforts to make restoring and protecting Cherry Point and the Aquatic Marine Reserve priorities.

But you've faltered.

Now we have the additional crisis of addressing the continued existence of our beloved Southern Resident Orcas and the Chinook Salmon.

And you've still faltered.

The adverse impacts of increased vessel traffic has not changed. The adverse impacts of toxins in our waterways and air have not changed. The adverse impacts on our endangered and threatened wildlife has not changed. The adverse impacts on our community health has not changed. The adverse impacts of the fossil fuel industry infrastructure has not changed. The adverse impacts on Tribal Sovereignty has not changed.

All the reasons with their related studies that were brought forward to defeat the GPT terminal and other fossil fuel projects, have not changed.

But something in you did and that's more than a crying shame. It's betrayal to the core ideals we set out with.

Now we are faced with an intensification and increase in these adverse impacts and it appears that you are turning a blind eye to them.

There can be no new or expansion of fossil fuel industries in Whatcom County or anywhere else in the

Salish Sea, including Canada. No expansion of existing pipelines, refineries, ports, etc. There can be no new facilities for fossil fuels, biofuels or fossil fuel byproducts. In fact, no hazardous materials of any sort. We still haven't addressed the situation with the ag community and the contaminants and over usage of water feeding into our Salish Sea.

The State of Washington is working towards restoring and preserving the Salish Sea. The Tribes and Indian Nations are working towards restoring and preserving the Salish Sea. Both our Governor and the Tribes/Nations along with other community groups are working to address climate change.

And yet Whatcom County Council has backpedaled on all these things and the very protections we need to put in place. The plans you laid out now appear to work against those goals and the goals of what we initially started out to address years ago.

You need to revisit and re-review all those comments that were provided for the GPT coal site. I've said this to you before and I will keep saying it. It seems you've forgotten them or some of you newbies never read them in the first place. You need to re-orient yourselves to the discussion of climate change, it seems you missed them. You need to take another look at our Orcas, apparently 17 days of carrying the dead carcass of her child wasn't enough to keep your hearts from moving away from the hard choices we need to make.

The Whatcom County Council needs to get back in step with what we set out to do. Too much time has allowed the fossil fuel industry to cloud your judgement and weaken your part in our shared responsibility for the place we live in.

Snap out of it Council members. We've a lot of work to do yet and your current trend is going to make it even more difficult to get those things accomplished. Get your perspectives back so we can get to work.

Some of you are looking to re-election, or moving onto to other possible governmental positions. Know that what you do here will impact my vote for you wherever you go. Make it count for something.

We need SUBSTANTIAL change and we need it NOW. Renew the moratorium and Stay Hard to the Course in Protecting Cherry Point and the Salish Sea!