

**From:** [Council](#)  
**To:** [Barbara Brenner](#); [Barry Buchanan](#); [Carol Frazey](#); [Rud Browne](#); [Satpal Sidhu](#); [Todd Donovan](#); [Tyler Byrd](#)  
**Cc:** [Matt Aamot](#); [Mark Personius](#); [Ashley Ubil](#); [Becky Boxx](#); [Cathy Halka](#); [Dana Brown-Davis](#); [Jill Nixon](#); [Kristi Felbinger](#); [NaDean Hanson](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Calling for revisions in proposed codes for Cherry Point  
**Date:** Monday, July 08, 2019 8:26:36 AM

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**From:** dbobena@yahoo.com [mailto:dbobena@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 06, 2019 12:22 PM  
**To:** Council; Barry Buchanan; Todd Donovan; Carol Frazey; Satpal Sidhu; Rud Browne; Barbara Brenner; Tyler Byrd  
**Cc:** Jack Louws  
**Subject:** Calling for revisions in proposed codes for Cherry Point

Dear Whatcom County Council:

It is my understanding that you all received a draft copy of the proposed code related to Cherry Point which the Cascadia Law Group and the Whatcom County Planning Department have been reviewing over the last few months.

I had noticed in the January 29, 2018 resolution, 2019-004, that there was a section in the resolved clauses in which Council was directing the Cascadia Law Group and the Planning Department to work together to provide code language, which among other things, according to section d., "Allows expansion of existing refining capacity in proportion to certain criteria, such as a rolling five year projection of the combined regional population growth of Washington State and British Columbia as determined by their respective publishers government forecasts;"

I do not support **any** expansion of the refining capacity of fossil fuels at Cherry Point. I would only support energy projects that have undergone thorough review that would be of a nature so as to contribute to the safe and rapid transition away from the transportation into and refining of fossil fuels at Cherry Point.

Fossil fuel industry advocates frequently point out how heavily reliant our local economy is on corporations like BP and Phillips 66. Since the bulk of these corporations' operations revolves around fossil fuel production, we cannot afford to become more financially reliant on such projects. In other words, expanding their refining capacity would not only be damaging and threaten disaster to our local the environment, the environment that those fossil fuels travel through, and the environment where those fuels are extracted, but also to the stability of our local economy.

Therefore, I call for Council Members to modify the code section,

20.68.800 provided in policy evaluation prepared by Cascadia Law Group and BERK Consulting, Inc., to prohibit expansion of fossil fuel refining at Cherry Point. If this cannot be done, then I call on the Council to come up with code that will offer an effective review process which requires proof that these projects do not contribute to any increase in the extraction or fossil fuels elsewhere, and do not contribute to an increase in the transportation of fossil fuels through communities en route to Cherry Point.

I also call on Council Members to make sure amendments that are passed on to the Planning Commission for review include the strongest SEPA protections that can be provided. Guidelines for review should be clear and leave nothing to interpretation as to which kinds of impacts will require a full EIS, how staff should document such decisions, and any details regarding what analysis should be included when an EIS is required.

I also do not support any exemption from stringent project review for biofuels. Any type of energy project needs strict review with adequate provisions for public input to make sure it does not pose an unacceptable level of threat and damage to our community and the environment.

We must set an example, here in Whatcom County, that will help other communities also take measures to promptly decrease the extraction, transport, and production of fossil fuels. Our existence, that of all other creatures, and that of our planet is depending on our greed for energy to cease, especially that which poses the severe level of threats and damage that fossil fuels do.

Sincerely,

Dena Jensen  
Birch Bay, WA

[dbobena@yahoo.com](mailto:dbobena@yahoo.com)