

From: [Council](#)
To: [Cathy Halka](#); [Dana Brown-Davis](#); [Jill Nixon](#); [Kristi Felbinger](#); [NaDean Hanson](#)
Cc: [Matt Aamot](#); [Mark Personius](#); [Becky Boxx](#)
Subject: FW: Cherry Point Amendments - Death Cab For Cutie's new song, "Kids In '99"
Date: Tuesday, July 30, 2019 1:10:57 PM

From: Sandy Robson [mailto:sjrer2@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tuesday, July 30, 2019 12:35 PM
To: Council; Barry Buchanan; Todd Donovan; Carol Frazey; Satpal Sidhu; Rud Browne; Barbara Brenner; Tyler Byrd
Cc: Jack Louws
Subject: Cherry Point Amendments - Death Cab For Cutie's new song, "Kids In '99"

Dear County Council members:

As you are continuing your work on the Cherry Point Amendments, I respectfully request that each of you take the time (a little over 3 minutes) to listen to this new song, "Kids In '99" by the band, Death Cab For Cutie.

Here is a link to the video for "Kids In '99":
<https://youtu.be/qduFAr9b7uc>

In an online article published today, July 30, 2019, [RollingStone.com](#) reported:

"On June 10th, 1999, a gas pipeline operated by the Olympic Pipeline Company exploded in Bellingham, Washington's Whatcom Falls Park, injuring eight people and killing three children, aged 10 to 18, who were fishing and playing in the area. Frontman Ben Gibbard describes the scene over a rolling drumbeat and textural guitar, gingerly singing, 'Gone, gone' in the chorus as he laments their deaths.

"'The Olympic Pipeline explosion in 1999 was a tragedy that really affected me while we were living in Bellingham,' Gibbard said in a statement. 'After all these years I felt it was worthy of its own folk song.'"

Here is a link to the [RollingStone.com](#) article:
<https://www.rollingstone.com/music/music-news/death-cab-for-cutie-kids-in-99-865125/>

As most people in Whatcom County know, the terrible Olympic pipeline incident at Whatcom Falls Park in 1999 resulted when the Olympic pipeline ruptured and released approx. 237,000 gallons of gasoline which eventually ignited and burned approximately one and a half miles along a creek that flows through Whatcom Falls Park.

Not only did two 10-year-old boys and an eighteen-year-old boy who were at that park that day die as a result of the incident, but also, there were eight additional people who sustained

minor inhalation injuries who transported themselves to the hospital.

I really don't know what word to use for what occurred that day. To call it an "accident" could imply it was unavoidable, which is not the case. To call it a "disaster" could imply it was some kind of natural catastrophe, which is not the case. Whatever we call it, it was horrible and tragic.

I ask that you please think carefully about the very real, serious dangers of oil and gas pipelines and other fossil fuel operations currently ongoing in the Cherry Point UGA and Whatcom County, as well as proposed fossil fuel projects in the Cherry Point UGA and Whatcom County.

And after you think carefully about those very real, serious dangers, I ask that you act and vote as County legislators such that you put in place the strongest protections possible in our County's policies, codes and regulations to protect public safety and the future health of humans and our environment.

Death Cab for Cutie "Kids in '99" Lyrics
(Source songtexte.co)

Been thinkin' 'bout those kids
Been thinkin' 'bout those kids back in '99 The gas leakin' in the creek
A fire cracker then a spark
In a moment they were

Gone, gone
Gone, gone

House shaken by the blast
Black smoke filled the wind of the landscape
The sirens crying through the streets Choppers hovering like vultures above a meal

Gone, gone
Gone, gone
Gone, gone
Gone, gone

In the waters where we used to swim Where we thought we would be young forever
But beads that glisten on your sunburnt skin
Evaporated in the flames and embers

Been thinkin' 'bout those kids
Been thinkin' 'bout those kids back in '99 Wonder who they were then
Not a spark then a flash
In a moment they were

Gone, gone
Gone, gone
Gone, gone
Gone, gone
Gone, gone
Gone, gone

Thank you.
Regards,

Sandy Robson