

From: drivenfolkmusic@gmail.com
To: [PDS Planning Commission](#)
Subject: We must keep our communities safe
Date: Tuesday, September 10, 2019 10:30:57 AM

Whatcom County Planning Commissioners,

Thank you for choosing to ensure Whatcom County explores renewable energy options and obvious economies that strengthen our community. We have so much to gain by not supporting fossil fuel expansion. We have a responsibility to safeguard ecosystems for all of the Salish Sea's inhabitants, we already know that renewable energy and economies based on recreation and thriving farmlands are far more sustainable than pursuing the continued expansion of a known industry that contributes to climate change.

That we need to keep having this dialogue is indicative of the power and influence of short term greed. Stand strong and do the right thing for future generations.

On Sept 12th, there will be a public hearing for the proposed Cherry Point land use ordinance. Then, in the following weeks, you will have an opportunity to strengthen the policy to ensure that it protects our community, workers, our climate, and the fragile Salish Sea.

The draft forwarded to you by the County Council has been under development for more than a year. It is informed by Comprehensive Plan Policies adopted in 2017, extensive legal review by Cascadia Law, County Council's formal requests for input from industry stakeholders last December, informal discussions with labor leaders, community leaders, and environmental leaders, as well as dozens of hours of public meetings by the County Council, and hundreds and hundreds of public comments. We are fortunate to live in this region, let us do the work necessary to ensure its survival.

Sincerely,
Rebecca Westlake