

**From:** [borsope@aol.com](mailto:borsope@aol.com)  
**To:** [PDS Planning Commission](#)  
**Subject:** County code regarding Cherry Point  
**Date:** Monday, September 30, 2019 7:29:59 PM

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Dear Commissioners,

This is a time for sweeping protections to be enacted to protect the health and safety of people and ecosystems. I hope you recognize the urgent need to reform county code so that Whatcom County is empowered to reject projects that unreasonably threaten the health and safety of people and ecosystems. We need to be able to ensure that existing industries are held accountable not to increase hazards, but rather invest in upgrades that reduce pollution and risk while creating jobs. In your review of the proposed amendments, please listen to public input, engage in open dialogue and promote transparency in the remainder of the public review process for these important legal protections.

I would ask that you:

- Prohibit new coal, oil or gas transshipment facilities.
- Prohibit new shipping piers, docks, or wharfs in the Cherry Point Aquatic Reserve.
- At existing facilities, all fossil fuel storage and transshipment upgrades or additions should require conditional use permits with protections.
- All new projects at new or existing industries should require greenhouse gas mitigation to invest in infrastructure that reduces fossil fuel consumption such as clean power, energy efficiency, building retrofits, and transportation improvements.
- The code needs stronger “change of use” definitions so that existing terminals serving refineries do not change use to become transshipment hubs for unrefined fossil fuels like crude oil, tar sands, coal or fracked gas.

Thank you for your volunteer service to our communities.

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