

From: [Council](#)
To: [Matt Aamot](#); [Mark Personius](#); [Becky Boxx](#); [Ashley Ubil](#)
Subject: FW: Keep the Cherry Point fossil fuel moratorium
Date: Thursday, May 28, 2020 11:24:50 AM

From: Denise Weeks <Denise.Weeks.279874940@p2a.co>
Sent: Thursday, May 28, 2020 7:46 AM
To: Council <Council@co.whatcom.wa.us>
Subject: Keep the Cherry Point fossil fuel moratorium

Honorable Councilmembers ,

Did you see the whales in Bellingham Bay this week? Please be encouraged by their visit to do what you can to protect our coastline and waterways. Now is NOT the time to move toward greater risks or pollution and degradation of our wonderful environment.

To protect the people and natural resources of Whatcom County from risky expansions that would bring more crude oil, tar sands bitumen, fracked gas, propane or coal through our towns, farmland, and waterways, I am urging the Council to act once more for our common interests.

Please continue the moratorium on permits that would increase the shipment of unrefined fossil fuels through Cherry Point.

Furthermore, I encourage the Council to move forward with a new zoning ordinance to implement development regulations in accordance with the Comprehensive Plan policies for Cherry Point that passed in May 2017. In order to address the risks and harms from hazardous shipments through our county, we can improve Whatcom County Code to ensure transparency about proposals and their impacts, accountability to meet standards for public safety and environmental protection, and more public participation in the process for reviewing permits for projects with significant impacts. We hope the council will complete this important and thorough rulemaking process within six months.

As fuel demand dropped this Spring, we've seen surplus oil moving through Cherry Point from trains onto ships for storage. Opening the door to further increase unrefined fossil fuel transshipment would needlessly place us at undue risk with no benefit. Now is not the time to remove what minimal protections we have in place.

Thank you for your hard work and diligent service to our communities,

Denise Weeks
819 40th St
Bellingham, WA 98229