

**From:** [Carol J](#)  
**To:** [Ashley Ubil](#)  
**Subject:** Thursday Agenda Comment  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 24, 2020 11:22:22 AM

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We are hoping that you can get these comments into the hands of the commissioners. If we need to send this individually or in another mode of communication please let me know.

Thanks for your time,

Carol and David Smith

Dear Planning Commissioners,

We are writing in support of the proposed amendments to keep UNREFINED fossil fuels from being shipped from Cherry Point. It is important to keep telling the public that these amendments will not close the current refineries or prevent the construction of safety upgrades.

We were so touched by the young men from BP who came to the hearings and desperately want to keep good jobs. We do need to develop a variety of family wage jobs at Cherry Point and elsewhere in the county. Refineries are not the only industries with family wage jobs. If we are to survive in a world we recognize, fossil fuels can not be the engine that runs America in 15 years. We don't want to help prolong the life of a dying industry. We need sustainable ones so good jobs can flourish!

Cherry Point is also culturally and spiritually important to the Lummi Nation. Archeological digs have substantiated this. The Lummi's fishing rights will be further eroded by any new structures on or near Cherry Point. It is essential that all new construction be permitted—as it should have been from the beginning.

New supporting infrastructure, including a new pier, must either be banned or require a conditional use permit to keep the new infrastructure from being sold and repurposed, as has happened in the past.

We would like any new pier to be banned as it would require sinking concrete pillars 30 feet into the water, destroying the Cherry Point Aquatic Reserve with its eel grass and the Cherry Point herring, which are necessary to the survival of salmon, which, in turn, are necessary to the survival of orcas and the fishing industry generally.

We often walk on the Point Whitehorn Beach and already are deeply concerned with the health of the ecosystem. As senior citizens who were both born in Washington we have seen such losses of our natural world. It hurts us to think of the world our grandchildren are inheriting. We should be doing all we can to protect this vital resource which has so many tangible and intangible benefits. For example the increasing warmth and acidity of the ocean water has destroyed much of shellfish breeding (such as Taylor's) and harvesting industries and is impacting other life forms. Studies show that the acidification of our area of the Pacific Ocean is primarily the result of fuels burned in Asia. The once thriving commercial fishing industry has been all but wiped out in the Salish Sea.

Bakken oil and tar sands oil each have their serious issues from their extraction to refining to shipping. We must not encourage this industry to use these fossil fuels. And especially not to add capacity to just ship them unrefined to other places.

Thank you all for working on these amendments. We are tired of going to meetings and just having the moratorium. We need to be putting all our energy into creating a healthier, sustainable world that will give all of us the future we need with a healthy economy and thriving ecosystems.

Sincerely,

Carol and David Smith

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