

From: [WSBCTC](#)
To: [PDS Planning Commission](#); [Ashley Ubil](#)
Cc: [Satpal Sidhu](#); [Rud Browne](#); [Todd Donovan](#); [Tyler Byrd](#); [Kathy Kershner](#); [Ben Elenbaas](#); [Barry Buchanan](#); [Carol Frazey](#)
Subject: Cherry Point Planning Commission
Date: Tuesday, August 11, 2020 1:30:17 PM
Attachments: [Cherry Point Letter.pdf](#)



August 11, 2020

Whatcom County Planning Commission
5280 Northwest Drive
Bellingham, WA 98225

Whatcom County Planning Commission:

I am the Executive Secretary of the Washington State Building and Construction Trades Council representing approximately 80,000 workers.

I have been closely following Whatcom County Council's efforts to reregulate Cherry Point commonly referred to as the Cherry Point amendments. I have watched with great interest as the Planning Commission has done its required review of those amendments.

Before COVID 19 the Planning Commission process worked well and with the collaboration of the affected Cherry Point industries some important recommendation were made. However, your last two work session were much less productive. There still remains some important technical and definitional issues that need to be addressed. I strongly encourage the Planning Commission at your August 13th public hearing to work with the Cherry Point refineries and make constructive recommendations in these remaining areas of concern.

The Building Trades are watching this process with great concern. Many of my members and their families depend on Cherry Point jobs. The economic downturn and jobs loss resulting from COVID 19 has the potential of having a devastating impact on many of my members. The Planning Commission and ultimately the County Council is accountable to all their constituents to make absolutely sure that these significant changes in Cherry Point regulations don't increase the jobs lost and hinder job creation - the challenges of the COVID 19 economy are daunting enough. Whatcom has already lost 700 jobs at Intalco and had the disappointing cancelation of the Green Apple renewable diesel project.

Whatever the final result of all this, I must do everything in my power to protect my members and,

the Planning Commission and the County Council must do everything it can do to protect the livelihoods and quality of life of your constituents.

Sincerely,



Mark L. Riker, Executive Secretary
Washington State Building and Construction Trades Council

opeiu8/afl-cio

Washington State Building & Construction Trades Council
906 Columbia St SW #107
Olympia, WA 98501
360-357-6778 phone
360-357-6783 fax
M-F 8:30am – 4:30pm
opeiu8/afl-cio

Visit our website: www.wabuildingtrades.org



WASHINGTON BUILDING TRADES

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