

**From:** [Lori Province](#)  
**To:** [PDS Planning Commission](#); [Ashley Ubil](#); [Satpal Sidhu](#); [Rud Browne](#); [Todd Donovan](#); [Tyler Byrd](#); [Kathy Kershner](#); [Ben Elenbaas](#); [Barry Buchanan](#); [Carol Frazey](#)  
**Subject:** Planning Commission meeting 8/13/2020  
**Date:** Thursday, August 13, 2020 11:05:54 AM  
**Attachments:** [Province Letter to Commision August 2020 .docx](#)

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Attached please find my letter to the Whatcom County Planning Commission for the Meeting of 8/13/2020.

Thank you.

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August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Whatcom Planning Commission

5280 Northwest Drive

Bellingham, WA 98226

To the members of the Whatcom Planning Commission:

My name is Lori Province and I have been a Whatcom County resident since coming here to college in 1975. I raised my family and my husband and I earned our livings here; now we are retired here and paying our taxes gladly in order to live in a community that values the rules of a civil society.

Part of those values include certainty and transparency in our government so that citizens can participate effectively in their governance. One of the things that deconstructs openness and transparency is the state of our Temporary Moratorium after Temporary Moratorium at Cherry Point.

I am writing today to encourage the Planning Commission to add the recommendations made in the Joint Industry/RE Sources proposal that has been submitted to the Commission. Many concerns about transparency can be addressed by these recommendations, as well as the clarifying language that you are considering around the substance of the rules surrounding Cherry Point.

There are many reasons to be concerned that the jobs and the policies surrounding the most significant income generator for Whatcom County, at Cherry Point, are both fair and robust. The Covid 19 pandemic is already making industry rethink staffing and outputs in ways that are more significant than we have seen in years. We encourage the Commission to make recommendations that will drive investment in Cherry Point, not dry out investment in Cherry Point. The women and men who make their living at Cherry Point, or providing goods and services to the industries at Cherry Point, are not fungible inputs for the county. They are the backbone of what make up our civil society and the providers of the tax base upon which the civil society that is Whatcom County, relies.

We are also encouraged by the joint code revision process that is also coming to a conclusion. We believe that clear, transparent rules should govern the planning process and I would like to thank the Commission for their work to date.

Thank you for your consideration of my points.

Sincerely,

Lori Province

2501 West Street

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