

From: [Sandy Robson](#)
To: [PDS Planning Commission](#)
Cc: [Council](#)
Subject: Fwd: Public Comment for Cherry Point Public Hearing Aug 13, 2020
Date: Thursday, August 13, 2020 5:30:42 PM

Dear Whatcom County Planning Commission:

Please consider this my public comment for the Cherry Point amendments to the County's Comprehensive Plan and County Code.

I want to voice my strong support for Dena Jensen's public comment I've forwarded below that she shared with me today which she plans to give tonight during your commission's virtual meeting.

Thank you for considering my comment.
Regards,

Sandy Robson

Begin forwarded message:

From: Dena Jensen dbobena@yahoo.com
Date: August 13, 2020 at 1:13:13 PM PDT
To: Sandy Robson sjrer2@yahoo.com
Subject: Public Comment for Cherry Point Public Hearing Aug 13, 2020

I want to acknowledge that I am giving my comment on land that is the traditional territory of the Lummi and Nooksack Peoples. May we nurture our relationship with our Coast Salish neighbors, and the shared responsibilities to their homelands where we all reside today.

I thank you planning commissioners for proceeding forward to perform the job that was given to you because I know when you first received the Cherry Point amendments to review, there was discussion amongst you of potentially not doing that job. Your efforts in seeking to improve on the work that the County Council submitted to you - adding your expertise, and that of others, to make them more valuable and effective - is significant. We want these amendments to actually do the job of protecting the well being of the traditional lands and waters of Lummi Nation, the workers at the Cherry Point facilities, the surrounding community members, and the land, air, water and life forms in our region and beyond. Due to ongoing efforts of the federal administration to disable many existing national environmental protections, it is more important than ever that we put local protections in place.

Moving forward, I call on the Planning Commission to adopt recent revisions proposed jointly by RE Sources and industry stakeholders. Should you make any further revisions I call on you to consult with a wider variety of Cherry Point stakeholders, as your consultations during work sessions have seemed to allow only a very few stakeholders to publicly weigh in. Meanwhile, when the amendments move back to the County Council I will be calling on them to close any remaining gaps in the amendments, including making sure that new uses of existing facilities at Cherry Point must conform to the same development rules that are required for new facilities.

And please, get your Planning Commission minutes related to the Cherry Point amendments approved and posted on your County Meeting Materials page. It is really unacceptable that the last minutes you have posted are from October 10, 2019. There are 10 work sessions for this process for which minutes have not been made available to the public. I know that audio is provided, but not all people have abilities that can allow them to access audio. Additionally, minutes can serve the important function of aiding people in looking things up at certain points in the audios.

Thank you.

Dena Jensen