Public written comments:
To protect the health and safety of Tacoma, the Interim Regulations must be extended to prohibit expansions and conversions of existing fossil fuel facilities in Tacoma! The need for Interim Regulations that protect the health and safety of Tacoma is certainly clearer now more than ever. Because of the recent serious impact of climate change on our air quality caused by the serious fires in Washington, Oregon and California, we can see how important it is to protect our air quality! We must do all within our power to avoid projects that would put our air quality at risk and protect the "health, safety and welfare of the public and the local environment. Regulations must be strengthened to include existing facilities in any future recommendations from the Planning Commission. I urge the City Council to support strengthening of these regulations and extending them to prohibit expansions and conversions of existing fossil fuel facilities in Tacoma.
Joan M. James, 2710 N Puget Sound Ave, Tacoma, WA 98407, 253 759-2171
Tacoma City,

As a concerned community member, I am writing to demand that the City of Tacoma do its job to protect our health and wellness by curbing the expansions of polluting industries that threaten the health of our communities and our emissions reduction targets.

We cannot allow Tacoma to continue to be a vital link in the global fossil fuel chain. Allowing the fossil fuel industry in Tacoma to expand only locks us into exacerbating the climate crisis. I would like to see fossil fuels completely banned from the Tide Flats and Tacoma.

With our health more at risk now than ever, we need to do what is right.

Strengthen the Interim Regulations to include existing facilities.

Robb Krehbiel
robb.krehbiel@gmail.com
7521, East E Street
Tacoma, Washington 98404
From: Don and Pam Sunderland <dpsund@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 4:33 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: City Council Public Hearing-Tideflats Interim Regulations.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

On September 29, 2020
Although I am unable to attend tonight’s hearing, I have some concerns concerning it.

1) Have current Geo-technical studies been completed? If not, why not? The area indicated in question is surely an area of concern. The topography of the proposed area is of concern with existing slopes, aquifers, and soil composition. This area has experienced slides in recent years...not to mention the possible concerns with seismic activity. A very thorough study(S) must be completed as well as further City/Community review.

2) SR 509 (Marine View) Drive will surely be affected by ANY development/construction in the area. A thorough transportation study and analysis must be undertaken to review, and assess impacts to traffic volume(s), safety, also to adjacent areas. Unless sufficient time and consideration is afforded these reviews, I am concerned that this development will come to be termed “The Northeast Tacoma Mess.”

Thank you for your time, and attention.
Concerned Citizen.
No Change to Interim Regulations
September 29, 2020

Mayor Victoria Woodards and Members of the Tacoma City Council  
City of Tacoma  
747 Market Street  
Tacoma, Washington 98402

Subject: No Changes Please to the Tideflats Interim Regulations

Mayor Woodards and Esteemed Member of Council:

My name is Frank Boykin and I am the Director of the Manufacturing Industrial Council for the South Sound, a program of the Tacoma-Pierce County Chamber and representing more than 1300 businesses in Pierce County.

We have written to encourage this council to renew the Interim Regulations with no changes. You have received letters from Tideflats businesses, economic development groups, labor unions and associations representing maritime trade … each of us asking for predictability and certainty.

Today, we urge you to renew interim regulations with no changes.

Companies in Tacoma Tideflats provide thousands of family wage jobs and need predictability and regulatory certainty to confidently invest in our region. We believe you best serve Tacoma and our extended community by not layering on top of this time of unprecedented challenges with more unpredictability and economic strain through potential changes to the interim regulations. When the Tideflats interim regulations were created, it was with the intent to place a “pause” on certain areas of industrial growth, to identify benchmarks, and to allow the subarea planning process to move forward unencumbered. By voting to renew the existing Interim Regulations with no amendments or changes, you send a clear message of support to local businesses and their employees when we need it most. The message that Tacoma is stronger when united around values we all share – including Economic prosperity could not be more timely as we rebuild together.

We urge you to renew interim regulations with no amendments or changes.

Thank you for your consideration, your service and for listening.

Frank Boykin, Director  
Manufacturing Industrial Council for the South Sound  
frankb@tacomachamber.org  
253-370-0663
Dear Tacoma City Council,

I am writing to you on behalf of 350 Tacoma to ask that you strengthen the interim regulations by banning the expansion of current fossil fuel uses. As the regulations currently exist, they hand a monopoly to existing facilities to expand without competition, which is also an issue of fundamental fairness.

As we’ve seen already, SeaPort Sound Terminal has applied to expand twice since the interim regulations were implemented and the last thing we need is to increase our fossil fuel footprint. International scientists say we have less than 10 years to make radical shifts in our energy usage or face dire consequences from the climate crisis, which we have experienced again first hand with the recent wildfire smoke making our air hazardous to breathe for nearly two weeks.

As you know, the City of Tacoma acknowledged the crisis we face when it passed the Climate Emergency Resolution last December. Now is the time to act on those words.

In addition, Mayor Woodards promised long ago that if significant progress weren’t made on the subarea planning process, then she would consider amending the regulations to include this ban on expansion. We are now years into the process and the Planning Department has announced that it will be many more still. Now is the time to amend!

We have collected 619 signatures on a petition asking that the interim regulations be strengthened. The body of the petition reads:

-------------------------
We are signing this petition to urge you, the Tacoma City Council, to renew the Tideflats interim regulations and amend them to include a ban on the expansion of current fossil fuel uses.

Since the interim regulations have come into effect, both US Oil (now Par Pacific) and Targa (now SeaPort Sound Terminal) have announced plans to expand their operations. With unchecked potential for growth, these fossil fuel corporations could derail the very purpose of the interim regulations to keep the industrial map stable as new zoning regulations are made during the subarea planning process.

At the September 20th Tacoma Climate Strike, young people — surrounded by hundreds of allies — presented a list of demands to the Mayor and three City Council Members. These demands included declaring a climate emergency and terminating all new and current fossil fuel expansion projects. This, then, is your first opportunity to show the youth that you take their demands seriously, that you will stand strong against fossil fuel interests, that you will join the youth in securing a livable future for all.

This demand to halt expansion is not based on a whim. It is what science says we must do in order to preserve life on Earth as we know it.

Which side are you on, Tacoma City Council? That of the dying fossil fuel industry? Or of life, of our youth, of Indigenous leaders, of future generations?

We urge you to renew the interim regulations and amend them to include a ban on the expansion of current fossil fuel uses.

-------------------------
Please take action and uphold the demands of our local youth, who for two years running have been calling on you to safeguard their future and ban the expansion of fossil fuels in Tacoma.

Sincerely,

Daniel Villa
Volunteer
350 Tacoma
Hello,

My name is Henry and I am a University Place resident. As a resident of Pierce County, I feel it is important to speak up for my city and myself. The Interim Regulations for development in the port must be both extended and expanded to include current facilities. We are at a pivotal moment in our history in many ways, and the climate crisis is one of the prime examples. Allowing further development of fossil fuel facilities during this period is harmful to our community, the future of industry in Tacoma as the US shifts toward clean energy, and the world as a whole as the dramatic effects of climate change become ever more evident. Allowing further expansion to benefit the few at the expense of the many is exactly what government is meant to protect us, the many, from. Please consider this in your decision.

Sincerely,
Henry Norton
Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the six-month renewal of the Tideflats Interim Regulations. If we can clarify any of our concerns or recommendations, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Erin Dilworth, MS | Policy & Technical Program Manager
Citizens for a Healthy Bay | Tacoma, WA
253-353-2429 x3
She/Her/Hers

Connect with us: Facebook | Twitter | Instagram
LinkedIn | Subscribe to our enews
September 29, 2020

Tacoma City Clerk
733 Market Street, Room 11
Tacoma, WA 98402
Submitted electronically to cityclerk@cityoftacoma.org

RE: Six-month Renewal of Tideflats Interim Regulations

Dear Mayor Woodards and Tacoma City Council,

Thank you for providing the opportunity to comment on the six-month renewal of the Tideflats Interim Regulations (the Regulations).

Citizens for a Healthy Bay (CHB) is a 30-year-old organization whose mission is to represent and engage people in the cleanup, restoration, and protection of Commencement Bay, its surrounding waters and natural habitat. We are a 501(c)3 nonprofit providing practical, solutions-based environmental leadership in south Puget Sound. We work side-by-side with residents, businesses, and government to prevent and mitigate pollution and to make our community healthier and more vibrant.

CHB staff have spent hundreds of hours reviewing related data and policies, and discussing our view of the Regulations with City staff and Council. We know the renewal process for these regulations has been arduous, and we commend Mayor Woodards and City Council for staying present. Like you, we are concerned about the trajectory these regulations are seeming to take.

The Regulations were meant to set a baseline for industrial activity in the Tideflats – a snapshot in time of the regulated industries – so that there would be a consistent reference point to call back to for the drafting of the Tideflats Subarea Plan. Initially, it was thought that interim regulations would suffice, as it was presumed the Subarea Planning process would be complete within a year or two. However, it has become clear that that Subarea Planning process is taking much longer than anyone initially anticipated, and the Tideflats Interim Regulations are no longer an interim measure, but have functionally become a selective rolling moratorium.

We know that the baseline for the Subarea Plan continues to move farther away from its 2017 starting point. SeaPort Sound Terminal (SST) is again seeking approval from the City to expand their operations. SST is proposing to build new tanks that will increase their fossil fuel storage capacity by 14 percent. Because this is an existing high-risk facility in the Tideflats, SST had to do little more than submit a few documents, totaling less than 100 pages, which will likely be enough for approval. SST provided no review of the impacts their project would have on air quality, rail and vessel traffic, shoreline functioning, nearby toxic cleanup sites, or endangered species – and yet we fear this proposal will move
forward, further locking Tacoma into its antiquated role as a link in the global fossil fuel supply chain, and out of opportunities for the growth of innovative technologies and industries that could call Tacoma home.

While our Federal and State agencies are rolling back environmental protections and enforcement, we must rely more now than ever on our local government to protect our health and our environment. And because the baseline for the Subarea Plan keeps moving; and because the City’s resources meant to manage the Interim Regulations are limited; and because the current Interim Regulations function as a rolling moratorium that gives preferential treatment to existing businesses, something needs to change.

We recommend the City use the resources already in its arsenal, namely, the Planning Commission and Planning Staff, to initiate this needed change. Due to the shifting conditions in which we find ourselves, it would be appropriate for Planning Commission to re-evaluate alternatives for establishing the baseline for the Subarea Plan. From their findings, permanent regulations that cover existing high-risk facilities in the Tideflats should be adopted, and would expire with the passage of the final Tideflats Subarea Plan. Lastly, the process to complete this evaluation and adoption of permanent regulations should be expedited, in order to lessen the burden on City resources.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the six-month renewal of the Tideflats Interim Regulations, and thank you for approving the funding necessary to complete the fossil fuel baseline study that was adopted through the Climate Emergency Declaration.

If we can clarify any of our concerns or recommendations, please do not hesitate to reach out. We would be eager to work with you to find common ground on shaping the Interim Regulations, so that they may actually protect our communities from high-risk industries, as they were originally intended.

Sincerely,

Melissa Malott
Executive Director
mmalott@healthybay.org

Erin Dilworth
Policy & Technical Program Manager
edilworth@healthybay.org
From: Kathy Hewitt <ikathyhewitt@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 3:30 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Stop expansion of existing facilities - Interim Regulations

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Dear Mayor Woodards and City Council Members,

Not too long ago you declared a climate emergency. I am asking you to do what you say you will do - protect our environment. That can’t be done unless you make some much needed changes. Every little thing we do has a ripple effect in terms of our fragile world. If you believe we are in a crisis you will stop the expansion of fossil fuels. Put an end to allowing corporate influence and follow the will of the people. You must make an amendment to the interim regulations to stop future expansion of existing facilities in the tide flats and elsewhere in the city. The people of Tacoma depend on you to do the right thing. Too many years of ignoring the situation has already past. Please stop putting this off - we can’t wait any longer.

Sincerely,

Kathy Hewitt
Tacoma WA 98407
Tacoma City,

I ask that the council be mindful of the deleterious effects of fossil fuel to our environment and climate. Please look toward reducing rather than expanding fossil fuel.

Strengthen the Interim Regulations to include existing facilities would be moving in this direction.

Thank you.

Peter Altmann

Peter altmann
Peter@cga.net
3109 6th Av
Tacoma, Washington 98406
Mayor Woodwards and City Council –

I am writing to share my concerns regarding the Interim Regulations review. While I am a 35 year resident of Browns Point, I have a Tacoma address and am a Tacoma Utility rate payer. I have traveled through and around the Tacoma Tideflats for many, many years and miss the ‘old days’ of driving over the Hylebos bridge on a regular basis.

I urge you to not only continue the Interim Regulations, but amend them to include a ban on the expansion of existing fossil fuel refineries and terminals, such as the SeaPort Alliance Terminal, which looks to increase its capacity by significantly more than 10%.

2020 is a year of unanticipated and life altering events. From Covid-19 to the regional and local fires, unthinkable environmental & health catastrophes are occurring. The Beirut explosion was a very real and scary precursor of what an LNG facility explosion might look like. A perimeter fence won’t hold that in! On a smaller more personal note, this past Sunday, March 26th at approximately 1:00 PM, I stepped outside my home where a very ‘chemical’ odor gave me an almost immediate headache - and I rarely have a headache. The further I walked from my house and toward Commencement Bay, the stronger the odor became. It seemed to encompass the area. My home is situated above Caledonia Bay and SR509 and a strong breeze was blowing south to north. It’s not often that I smell odors from the Tacoma Tideflats, but when I do it’s usually determined that a Tideflats business has been the cause. Sunday’s odor was noxious and I filed a complaint with PSCAA.

I know from past experience that PSCAA is an organization with little to no enforcement ability. Weekend and late night discharges are able to occur, as businesses often only ‘self’ report. The Agency also only measures a certain list of individual components and doesn’t study the cumulative effects of the toxins of different chemicals mixing together. Knowing how the tides mix the chemical discharges that are released into the Bay to create a major toxic flow, so do the breezes and winds in the Port. These airborne emissions are not measured as a combined whole. As new chemicals and fossils fuels are brought into the Tideflats, the noxious effects can only become more hazardous to the health of area residents and workers.

Without serious and consequential enforcement of potential Tideflat polluters, it is extremely important that the Interim Regulations be amended to limit the expansion and growth of existing Tideflats facilities until the time that adequate oversight is put into place. As our climate changes, we can’t rely on Puget Sound winds to clean our air. We’ve just had a week of a smoke-filled inversion layer that was dangerous to all – people, pets and wildlife.

2020 has shown us that the only ‘certain’ thing is uncertainty. Allowing the ‘same old, same old’ that’s worked in the past, is no longer the path to follow. Decisions relating to the ‘health, safety and welfare of the public and the local environment’ must be reviewed and
scrutinized with our ‘2020’ eyes.

Thank you for reading my thoughts –

M Judith Ferguson
7219 East Side Dr NE
Tacoma, WA 98422
medfordgrad@aol.com
Dear Sir or Madam,

Please see attached written comments on the proposed 6-month extension of the Tideflats Interim Regulations in advance of the public hearing set for September 29, 2020. The comments were emailed directly to the Mayor and Councilmembers.

Andrew Troske  
Refinery Manager & VP of Manufacturing  
U.S. Oil & Refining Co. | Par Tacoma, LLC  
3001 Marshall Avenue, Tacoma, WA 98421  
O 253.680.3258 | M 808.479.0539  
ATroske@ParPacific.com

---

Dear Mayor Woodards and Councilmembers,

Attached is my letter respectfully requesting to end regulatory uncertainty through adoption of interim regulations via a single regulatory process. We are ready to support this process but remain concerned about additional regulation of our industry especially during the current economic crisis.

Please let me know if I can address any question or concerns.

Andrew

Andrew Troske  
Refinery Manager & VP of Manufacturing  
U.S. Oil & Refining Co. | Par Tacoma, LLC  
3001 Marshall Avenue, Tacoma, WA 98421  
O 253.680.3258 | M 808.479.0539  
ATroske@ParPacific.com
CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This electronic transmission and any attached documents or other writings are intended only for the person or entity to which it is addressed and may contain information that is privileged, confidential or otherwise protected from disclosure. If you have received this communication in error, please immediately notify sender by return e-mail and destroy the communication. Any disclosure, copying, distribution or the taking of any action concerning the contents of this communication or any attachments by anyone other than the named recipient is strictly prohibited.
U.S. OIL & REFINING CO.

September 29, 2020

The Honorable Mayor Woodard’s and Members of the City Council
City of Tacoma
747 Market Street, 12th Floor
Tacoma, WA 98402

Re: U.S. Oil & Refining Co. Comments on the extension of TideFlats Interim Regulations

Please accept this letter of U.S. Oil comments regarding the most recent contemplation of interim land use regulations for the Tacoma TideFlats. Thank you for your commitment to keeping this process moving forward through very trying times to our community as a result of COVID-19.

U.S. Oil has had a longtime presence on the shores of Commencement Bay and while our new parent company Par Pacific is not in Washington, the tradition of our independence, essential workforce and the products they make in the place they call home is unchanged. The reality is that the culture of U.S. Oil is steeped in the culture of Tacoma – hard working, innovative and environmentally aware. We are proud to be an engine of positive economic impact to our regional economy. In 2019, estimated taxes and fees paid by U.S. Oil to the City of Tacoma, including Tacoma Public Utilities, and Tacoma Rail were upwards of $15.7 million in addition to the $17.7 million we paid to the state of Washington. Like many industries originating in Tacoma and throughout this region, our products and the ways of working have evolved over time. Our continuing investment and innovation at our facility will empower another generation in their daily lives. It is in the spirit of protecting and maintaining this progress that we submit comment for your consideration.

Our approach to interim regulations has and will continue to focus on the need for regulatory certainty that facilitates continued evolution of our products to meet the changing needs of our community. We can and will continue to bring new technologies to bear as our society moves toward a more diverse set of transportation fuels available to consumers. That is why, in the context of your deliberations, we believe:

- The interim regulations should be made permanent. Continued review with potential for revision creates uncertainty which stifles future innovation and transition.
- Additional regulation of our industry is unnecessary. Regulation of our industry is rigorous and thorough.
- The societal and economic uncertainty we are living through does not create circumstances suited for more regulation.
Interim Regulations should be made permanent.

U.S. Oil fully supports the City of Tacoma in its desire to establish a process that moves the current pathway of interim regulations from a figure eight to a beeline to completion. The uncertainty of the current system establishes little that encourages investment, innovation, security, or responsible growth. Values embedded into regulating in this region when it comes to environmental protection, clean air and water, the public good and tribal sovereignty are not under debate by us, or anyone else who lives and works here. What is at stake, is the ability to deliver the cleaner, future-driven and visionary products made in Tacoma, for Tacoma, by Tacoma.

As we have emphasized, U.S. Oil, like many others, needs the certainty of fair, pragmatic, and long term regulations to effectively compete for investment funds needed to upgrade equipment that reduces our onsite emissions as we have done in the past, and build out the proper infrastructure to receive, refine, and deliver renewable fuels and their feedstocks. This is a clear and stated goal of U.S. Oil and is supported by our recent actions. The Interim Regulations should be made permanent as written to avoid potential conflicts and uncertainty with the parallel subarea plan development process. Stakeholders need one process, one result, and one term of enforcement so we can all move forward.

Additional regulation of our industry is unnecessary.

Regulation of our industry is rigorous, multi-layered, and thorough. A significant number of local, state & federal agencies actively monitor and regulate U.S. Oil, including:

✓ Puget Sound Clean Air Agency
✓ Department of Ecology
✓ Environmental Protection Agency
✓ U.S. Coast Guard
✓ WA Utilities & Transportation Commission
✓ Pipeline & Hazardous Material Safety Administration (DOT)
✓ Army Corps of Engineers
✓ National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration
✓ WA Department of Labor & Industries
✓ WA Department of Fish & Wildlife
✓ Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department
✓ City of Tacoma

We understand community concerns when it comes to the traditional fossil fuel industry and of potential increased fuel processing and transportation. These concerns are mitigated by the
current large body of regulations that provide comprehensive oversight of our operations. We do not take the rules lightly, and neither do any of the subject matter professionals, scientists, engineers, biologists, mariners, or public health officials who hold us accountable. Moreover, what we hope will replace fear about our industry is optimism for its future. Customer demand and energy technology has created rapidly-expanding opportunity in renewable fuels – and that is where U.S. Oil is headed. We view it as fitting that we could be a leader in next generation fuels based on the values of the community where we work. Instead, new regulations could impose a barrier on recyclable, non-emissive products that build our roofs and fill our potholes.

We stand ready to work with the City through the permanent adoption of interim regulations; however our immediate concerns reflect the evolution of fossil fuel use. Regulatory measures newly created today may not align with breakthroughs of tomorrow. Furthermore, new permanent regulations with the City process do not remove the need for the development of the sub area plan. For U.S. Oil, until the sub area planning is concluded, there is no regulatory certainty. Worse, it is entirely plausible that entities would be subject to duplicative, possibly conflicting regulation once the sub area plan is complete.

The societal and economic uncertainty we are living through does not create circumstances suited for more regulation.
I am immensely proud of our essential workforce and the nature with which they stayed focused on their jobs, the safety of their team and of our community as COVID-19 began to impact Washington, one of the first states in the country to face the pandemic. There is a specific kind of employee who is deemed crucial and necessary, whose role in maintaining stability and shoring up even the most tenuous of economic circumstances should be celebrated for who they are and what they put on the line for the benefit of the rest of us. What they do, their jobs and the revenues they support, which in turn generate taxes for local coffers and support other small businesses and employers, is made more tenuous with new regulation during a severe economic downturn. Frankly put, there are tangible effects on the cost of living and jobs when the policy and regulatory environment is unsteady.

We want to ensure that the solutions supported by interim regulations for the TideFlats not only reflect the energy sources that fuel our lives today and, in the future, but also the collaborative views of all stakeholders in our community. The ability to establish a foundation of stability and growth is in your hands, and can be shaped by your willingness to lead a conversation about the role all fuels play as part of the energy transition in the context of an economic downturn driven by a pandemic. Our refinery can continue to be an engine of economic growth by investing in jobs and innovation that allow our community to pursue a
different energy mix while maintaining or increasing production of non-emissive, recyclable products such as asphalt. We need regulatory certainty to be able to deliver in this challenging environment. It is our unaltering hope that all stakeholders can work together toward solutions that sustain the economic health and well-being of our community and empower us to move forward together.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Respectfully submitted,

U.S. Oil & Refining Co.,

[Signature]

Andrew J. Troske
Refinery Manager
Hello,

My name is Phil Harty and I'm strongly urging the Council to uphold and strengthen Interim Regulations. Please help protect the health and wellbeing of our beautiful South Sound by not only banning new fossil fuel expansions, but also by strengthening Interim Regulations by amending it to pause the growth of existing fossil fuel facilities. A purpose of Interim Regulations was to establish a baseline for the Subarea plan. We cannot do that if the current facilities are free to keep moving the baseline.

The fossil fuel industry is targeting Tacoma at the cost of our health and safety. Using our port for dangerous new oil and gas projects. These kinds of projects could easily be proposed and approved as expansions of existing facilities. We are seeing this now with the Seaport Sound expansion proposal. The city declared a climate emergency while allowing a 15% bulk storage expansion, which doesn't align with drastically reducing our emissions.

Interim Regulations must be extended to prohibit expansions and conversions of existing facilities. Whether a new oil storage facility, for example, is a new project or an expansion of an existing facility the health and safety impacts on Tacoma are the same. To treat them differently under Interim Regulations fails to protect the health and safety intended.

Finally, the need for Interim Regulations to protect the health and safety of Tacoma is clearer than ever as this public health and economic crises reveals. Covid-19 has exacerbated the existing volatility in the oil and gas industry with unprecedented price swings and uncertainty about viability of existing investments. Locking in new fossil fuel investments not only endangers our local health and safety, but comes at the expense of investments in industries that can sustainably support local economic growth. Also underlying respiratory conditions like asthma caused by the pollution from fossil fuel industry in the tideflats makes Tacoma residents even more vulnerable to Covid-19. The interim regulation and Subarea Plan can be a road map of how Tacoma and Pierce County will guide our recovery toward a cleaner, healthier and more equitable economy.

In this moment of crisis, Tacoma is more at risk than ever. Please Council do what you can to uphold and strengthen Interim Regulations.
A concerned Tacoma resident,

Phil Harty
Comment regarding Tideflats Interim Regulations:

My name is Ingrid Archibald and I'm an organizer with the environmental advocacy group Stand.earth – I live and work on Duwamish land in Seattle. I organize a campaign called SAFE Cities, which is the movement of communities standing against fossil fuel expansion.

**I want to again urge Tacoma City Council to renew and strengthen the interim regulations.** In order for these regulations to serve their intended purpose, we must close the loophole regarding existing facilities. It makes no sense that existing facilities can expand and harm surrounding communities, simply because those facilities are grandfathered in.

What happens in Tacoma affects so many more communities – including my community in Seattle. The expansion and development of fossil fuel infrastructure in the Tideflats first and foremost harms frontline communities in Tacoma, but then it has lasting impacts on our larger community. We know that with the fight to mitigate climate change, every local action has regional, and even global, consequences.

I say this to remind you all of the importance of your leadership. Not only are those who elected you dependent on your action – we all need to be protected from fossil fuel threats.

You're all in a position of power during a time in which every decision carries immense weight. We have so few years to safeguard our future and reimagine and rebuild our systems so they are equitable and just. The backdrop of the COVID-19 health crisis and the uprising for Black liberation adds even more urgency and weight to local action. I hope you will all take bold steps to do best by your community - particularly those most vulnerable in our system. I urge you to listen to the Puyallup Tribe, whose land you occupy, and those communities most hurt by pollution, the fossil fuel industry’s malpractice and lies, and climate change impacts.

Please renew the interim regulations and close the loophole for the expansion of existing
Thank you for your leadership and dedication.

_______________________
Ingrid Archibald | she/they
SAFE Cities Field Organizer
O: 415.863.4563, ext 415

I live and work on unceded ancestral lands of the Duwamish people – the first people of Seattle, WA. If you also occupy Duwamish land, I encourage you to consider paying Real Rent.

Stand is an advocacy organization that brings people together to demand that corporations and governments put people and the environment first.
Dear Tacoma City Council Members,

Please vote to strengthen the interim regulations for the Port of Tacoma to limit expansion of fossil fuels industries. Now is your chance to make a mark on the future of our city and the health of our community. What will you think when you look back on these choices 40 years from now? It's time to look for alternative energy solutions for our city and be a leader in Washington state and this country!! Dirty oil money is not the way to fund our city programs. We can do better. Please be the leaders we elected you to be and ban expansion of existing fossil fuels projects in Tacoma and the tide flats!!!!

Sincerely,

Barret Carpenter
Please strengthen the Interim Regulations to include a ban on the expansion of current fossil fuel industries.
please strengthen the interim regulations to include a ban on the expansion of current fossil fuel uses in the Port of Tacoma. Renewable energy is the future. The fossil fuel industry is quickly becoming economically unstable. In Tacoma and beyond the fossil fuel industry continues to make large profits while contributing to global warming, pollution, and endangering local communities.

In Washington State we do not need more fossil fuels and more pollution. Why should we help giant corporations profit by polluting the Salish Sea? I am especially concerned about the proposed LNG facility which is very dangerous and has been illegally constructed before the permit process was completed.

Thanks

Bill
Hello. I have a comment for the City Council meeting tonight regarding the Interim Regulations for the Tideflats. Thank you.

My name is Nancy Hausauer. I am writing regarding the Interim Regulations.

We live in an extraordinary time, when the world as we know it hangs in the balance. Like elected officials everywhere, this gives you an unparalleled level of responsibility. Many of the decisions you're making now and in the near future will have huge implications for the health and safety of the people of Tacoma.

Your upcoming vote about the Interim Regulations is one of those critical decision points. To protect the people of Tacoma, it's clear that you must close the loophole in the Interim Reqs before renewing them, banning all expansion of fossil fuel operations in the Tide Flats. Here's why.

- First, scientists tell us that to mitigate the worst effects of climate change, we can't allow any more fossil fuel facilities to come on line. Yet the current Interim regs allow existing industries in the Tide Flats to build new fossil fuel operations--and they are. For the good of the people, you must close this loophole.
- Second, we know that a major earthquake could come any time. The Tide Flats are created from land fill that will be very unstable in a large earthquake. Allowing any additional toxic industries in the Tide Flats is sheer negligence in your duty to protect the health and safety of the people of Tacoma.
- Third, new information predicts that the Tide Flats will be UNDER WATER by 2050. Again, allowing any new, dangerous industries into the Tide Flats defies both common sense and your duty as our representatives.
Please place the best interests of the people of Tacoma over the interests of fossil fuel profiteers. They don't care about us, but YOU should. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Nancy Hausauer
Good afternoon, Council:

I am writing to submit my comment about agenda item 20-0568 for council meeting on September 29, 2020. This item would extend the Tideflats Interim Regulation by 6 months. I fully support this regulation. I also urge the Council to strengthen the regulations further to include a ban on expanding fossil fuel use in the Port of Tacoma. I want to live in healthy community that thrives for many years to come and inviting this kind of pollution into our city will not achieve that. It's up to us to stop the dependence on fossil fuels when there are so many other options that don't destroy our environment and planet. Thank you for using your voice and power to protect our community in this way.

~Kayla Quinn (Becker)
I'm writing to ask that the City of Tacoma Council strengthen the current Tacoma Tideflats Interim Regulations to include existing facilities.

While the current regulations have helped protect us from some polluting industries, the ability for existing facilities to expand is dangerous for the health and wellbeing of our waters and communities.

Now—in the midst of ongoing wildfires, after our community spent over a week choking on toxic smoke—is the time for us to get serious about climate change and to do everything in our power to reduce the use of fossil fuels. Now is the time for us to consider the health of our waterways and the safety of our children. Now is the time to stand in solidarity with the Puyallup Tribe as they oppose expanded fossil fuel infrastructure in their territory.

Thank you in advance for prioritizing the long-term health of our community and our planet over short-term profit.

Sincerely,

Carla D. Saulter
Hello,

I am very interested in no more degradation of the watershed including Tacoma’s Port. I am a Tacoma native, not living there now, but participated in much South Puget Sound efforts at restoration. It appeared this was going in a good direction until extreme amounts of fossil fuel shipments and processing began to be allowed due to lack of regulations at the federal level. It is up to our communities and local jurisdictions to do what we know is right, according to factual research and, as we have found more recently, responses to climate change are vital to life on the planet. There is no doubt. I trust you will see these facts and make changes based on fact to stop allowing large conglomerates to expand.

We already have enough plastics to the point where we can’t recycle the waste. Why allow China to build more plastic product plants? Much of the natural gas from the PNW goes there, of course. Mexico already has extreme pollution problems due to natural gas use in recent years. What you allow shipped to Hawaii will likely result in similar outcomes.

We have a duty here in Washington to be part of the stand against continued fossil fuel use. California and Oregon are doing a good job. Tacoma will stand out like a sore thumb when this all comes down. I hope not - Tacoma’s reputation has been improving since I grew up there. Please do your best to keep this trend moving towards the future, not to the dark fossil fuel past.

Here is an article - below - showing how climate trends may show the port under water by earlier than mid-century, predicted 2040-2060. The South Sound is vulnerable in many ways, and definitely at sea level. This is certainly a reasonable conclusion and not too many years away. Why would you allow more fossil fuel activity that will only degrade the waters and result in short-term profits for oil companies, and go against your own Interim Regulations? It appears like a losing bet for the company’s that are attempting to lock in place these kinds of projects, as well.

Who would be responsible for cleaning up the waters after sea level rise?

It makes no sense in any way to allow increased fossil fuel business at Tacoma’s port. It goes against the entire intent of the Interim Regulations meant to limit impacts on health and public welfare that were put in place for a very good reason.

“New Climate Maps Show a Transformed United States”
ProPublica publication of data from Rhodium Group analyzed by ProPublica and The New York Times September 15, 2020

https://projects.propublica.org/climate-migration/

Thank you for listening to the public on this extremely vital matter.

Nancy Hansen
7219 NE 158th Street
Kenmore, WA 98028

Former Tacoma citizen - Lakewood at 11211 Gravelly Lk Dr SW, when Lakewood part of Tacoma.
Lived in Pierce County - Gig Harbor 1980 to 1995 - involved in water monitoring, stopping a shopping mall to be built on wetlands Lived in Kitsap County - 1995 to 2014 - stakeholder in the Minter Watershed, part of Pierce/Kitsap decision making to go to the Growth Management Board Presently in King County - working on the watershed at the mouth of the Sammamish River to Lake Washington
I, as a voting citizen in Tacoma, do not support in any way an expansion of any resources towards fossil fuels. Here’s why:

Aside from the environmental impacts, which are huge, and I’m sure you’ll hear a lot from today, I also believe that it’s a bad investment. Fossil fuels are on the way out. As you get generations start to gain power and make major financial decisions, they are making way more environmentally sound decisions for their lives because the see the effects of climate change. Oil and gas are starting to lose money in the stock market, and one of the best performing stocks this year is Tesla. So why would we focus on continuing down the path of an industry that has an expiration date? Any job gain will dwindle away in the future and we’ll have a bigger homeless problem than we have now, and less land to divvy up because of the rising waters.

So again, as a resident of Tacoma, I absolutely do not support any resources being given to expand any fossil fuels here. I see it as a necessary evil to use them as we develop our clean technology further. But, to expand our use and investment of fossil fuels is terrible planning.

Sincerely,

John “Danny” Cox
5321 n 39th street
Tacoma, WA 98407
Mayor Woodards, Councilmembers –

Attached please find the EDB comments for tonight’s meeting regarding interim regs in the Tideflats.

Thanks.

Bruce

BRUCE KENDALL
President & CEO
September 29, 2020

Mayor Victoria Woodards
and Members of the City Council
City of Tacoma
747 Market Street
Tacoma, WA 98402

RE: Please, no change to the Tideflats Interim Regulations

Mayor Woodards and Members of the Council:

The Economic Development Board places equal emphasis on economic prosperity, social equity, and environmental stewardship in our business recruitment and retention efforts. We work hard to create family-wage jobs for Pierce County residents. I am pleased to say that the City of Tacoma is our partner in this cause.

When the Tideflats interim regulations were first created, it was with the intent to place a “pause” on certain areas of industrial growth, to identify benchmarks, and to allow the subarea planning process to proceed unencumbered. To that end, we urge you to leave the interim regulations in place without additional change. Adding additional restrictions will create greater uncertainty and a correspondent chilling effect on Tacoma’s ability to keep and grow family-wage jobs. This is particularly problematic during the pandemic as businesses and households struggle every day to simply stay afloat.

Long term, Tideflats land use regulations and zoning decisions are best handled through the comprehensive Subarea Planning process now underway. We urge you to lean into that process and avoid further burdening job-creating companies with additional interim regulations.

Thank you all for your service and striving to ensure public policy balances economic, social and environmental values.

Sincerely,

Bruce Kendall
President & CEO
Hello,

Please strengthen the interim regulations to include a ban on the expansion of current fossil fuel uses in the Port of Tacoma.

Adam Spahn
From: Charles Joy <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 10:07 AM
To: City Clerk’s Office
Subject: City of Tacoma, You MUST Strengthen the Interim Regulations

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Tacoma City,

As a concerned community member, I am writing to demand that the City of Tacoma do its job to protect our health and wellness by curbing the expansions of polluting industries that threaten the health of our communities and our emissions reduction targets.

We cannot allow Tacoma to continue to be a vital link in the global fossil fuel chain. Allowing the fossil fuel industry in Tacoma to expand only locks us into exacerbating the climate crisis.

With our health more at risk now than ever, we need to do what is right. Let’s move forward into a future free from corporate interests that anchor us to the past. Strengthen the Interim Regulations to include existing facilities.

Charles Joy
1147suzi@gmail.com
7319 6th Ave #12
Tacoma, Washington 98406
Dear Tacoma City Council Members,

I am a long time property owner along the Tideflats affected area of Marine View Drive (4409 Marine View Drive). Myself and my business partners have invested (Marine View Land LLC) considerably in the 10 acre property, which has had environmental impact studies demonstrating no mitigating factors present, an engineering study of the slope east of Marine View Drive that resulted in analysis indicating the slope was indeed safe to build upon, as well as an Audubon study that found no potential harm from development that would affect endangered species.

So after tremendous investment we have been prevented from furthering our goals of providing housing there for Tacoma, We consider ourselves harmed by this endless extension of the moratorium without foreseeable endgame.

If the strategy is to prevent the LNG plant from operating it certainly hasn’t stopped its build-out but it has halted our dream to provide more housing opportunities for Tacoma families.

Its time to sharpen your pencils and find equilibrium for the benefit of our community.

Sincerely,

Jeff Silverman

525 Puyallup Ave

Tacoma, WA 98421

mobile 425-879-6762
From: David McInturff <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 9:37 AM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: City of Tacoma, You MUST Strengthen the Interim Regulations

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Tacoma City,

In December of 2019 Tacoma declared a climate emergency. The only rational course of action going forward is to scale back our exposure to the fossil fuel industry which is systematically worsening our local and global climate issues.

As a concerned community member, I am writing to demand that the City of Tacoma do it's job to protect our health and wellness by curbing the expansions of polluting industries that threaten the health of our communities and our emissions reduction targets.

We cannot allow Tacoma to continue to be a vital link in the global fossil fuel chain. Allowing the fossil fuel industry in Tacoma to expand only locks us into exacerbating the climate crisis.

With our health more at risk now than ever, we need to do what is right.

Strengthen the Interim Regulations to include existing facilities.

David McInturff
mcntrff@gmail.com
4705 Memory Lane West
University Place, Washington 98466
Hello Tacoma Clerk's Office,

After the weeks of wildfire smoke we just endured it should be clear how dire our climate situation really is. These wildfires will only increase in strength and will threaten our beautiful cities and way of life in the PNW. We cannot afford any more emission-causing building.
PLEASE strengthen the interim regulations to include a ban on the expansion of current fossil fuel uses in the Port of Tacoma.

No more fossil fuels!

Emily Wing
Puget Sound Resident
Hello,

My name is Meghan Murphy and I am a resident of Tacoma, WA. I am writing to demand we strengthen the interim regulations to include a ban on the expansion on current fossil fuel uses in the Port of Tacoma. The current climate crisis can no longer be ignored.

Best regards,

Meghan
Dear Mayor Woodards and Councilmembers:

I am a Tacoma resident and a member of Citizens for a Healthy Bay’s Policy and Technical Advisory Committee.

The Interim Regulations put a temporary pause on all new fossil-fuel operations in the Tideflats while the Subarea Plan is being developed. As the planet’s climate crisis worsens, our community is deeply grateful to you for these interim regulations.

But fossil-fuel companies already here can still expand their operations, and new companies can still buy those existing facilities and expand their operations. This means MORE FOSSIL FUELS are still coming into our community and will continue to do so.

At the Council’s study session last week, Councilmember Hunter asked a key process question: Why must the Council reconsider and the interim regs every six months, why not just make them permanent now? The short answer is that until the Sub-Area plan is adopted sometime in the next two years, WA law requires such review and renewal by you every six months.

But you don’t have to renew them as written. You can and must amend them NOW to prohibit expansion of current fossil-fuel uses.

The west coast is burning, our air quality is deteriorating. Don’t let inaction be your legacy. If you don’t close this enormous loophole, then all Tacomans might be wearing masks in 20 years and not because of a pandemic. Let it instead be that you did all in your power to make a more livable, breathable world.

Thank you.
City Council,

It truly seems that the community was JUST writing this letter. I was just thinking it would be nice to be able to address the intersectionality of the injustices of this city to council (there are many) but there's not time to get off the reactionary train of responding to bad projects and begging for further regulations.

I'm a parent of a 6 year old, a field worker and concerned lifetime resident of Washington (14 years in Tacoma). I'm frustrated and tired with fossil fuel projects that steal our air and water. I'm tired of working in the farm fields during the fires and it taking weeks for my lungs to recover (and I have strong lungs). More fires and smoke to come. I'm tired of waking up at dawn each morning, driving out to 705 from Stadium and seeing WestRock pumping out toxins (even in the height of fire smoke). I'm tired of spending my time begging to strengthen interim regulations each 6 months only to have to scrabble together time to beg for more expansions to not continue (like the Seaport Sound Terminal). These fires and Pandemic are an ecological way of balancing the harm of heavy pollution and fossil fuel extraction. As the effects of these industries wreak havoc it makes sense that regulations would echo to aid in the earth's balance. The regulations in place are not strong enough and should be increased.

We are in a climate crisis and the city should be using recovery stimulus money in a strategic way to GET OUT of the fossil fuel game so we can lead to a clean and equitable economic recovery. When I use the word "economy" I'm using it in a more wholistic way to include our home in air and water. My goal is clean air and water for my family and the more than human world--not bolstering the failing fossil fuel industry. My goal is survival.

The original intent of the Interim Regulations was to limit impacts of regulated industries on the "health, safety and welfare of the public and local environment". These regulations should reflect the amping up of climate chaos and should be increased by 10% or more. They should not allow for any more expansions by existing or reorganized companies (reorganized to avoid liability like in the case of Targa to Seaport Sound Terminal LLC).

I want transparency and the assurance that city council is working for the benefit of the people and the survivability of the Salish Sea and all it holds.

Let us survive,
Joy Caddock
To whom it may concern,

Please strengthen the interim regulations to include a ban on the expansion of current fossil fuel uses in the Port of Tacoma.

Sincerely,

Jared and Whitney Howe

Washington state residents
To Tacoma City Council,

I am a concerned citizen and voter. I grew up in Dash Point, in North East Tacoma, passing through the Tide Flats every day on my way to Stadium High School. The health of my family and community is dear to my heart, especially during these difficult times - coronavirus, economic stress, and climate change. Now more than ever, we must prioritize our people and planet first.

I am deeply appreciative of the Interim Regulations while you work towards the Subarea Plan. However, in the interim, the existing industries need regulation to prevent them from moving the goalpost further and further. Tacoma is a hot target for fossil fuel development. Time and time again, Tacoma residents have spoken up and showed up - saying loud and clear, we do not want fossil fuel development in our port. We want stronger restrictions on current industries. We want clean energy. We care about our children's future and our children's children's livelihood. Thank you for enacting the Interim Regulations in the first place. But we must now strengthen them to prevent further expansion by the fossil fuel companies that already occupy our port.

Fossil fuel development is absolutely detrimental to our physical health, as CO2 emissions change our environment. We all experienced the effects of climate change mere weeks ago, when we couldn't open our windows, go for our daily quarantine walk, or even vacuum our homes. People with respiratory illnesses suffered, at a time when they are already vulnerable. We all know the consequences of inaction when it comes to our planet. We need a safe and habitable Earth.

We need to be forward thinking and put the livelihood of all Tacoma residents over the profits of fossil fuel companies. The health and prosperity of our people is paramount. Please, protect our port by strengthening current regulations and preventing existing facilities from expanding.

Thanks for all of your hard work and your time regarding this issue that is so important to our community.

Thank you,
Paige Lasley
Hello,

As a life long resident of Tacoma and citizen of the world I have seen the damage that the fossil fuel industry has done to the health of the climate and community.

Please strengthen the interim regulations to include a ban on the expansion of current fossil fuel usage in the port of Tacoma. We live healthy lives here in Tacoma, please do your part in ensuring that can continue.

Erik Carlsen
Sent from my iPhone
This comment is for today's city council meeting:

We need climate action more than ever. Please strengthen the interim regulations to include a ban on the expansion of current fossil fuel uses in the Port of Tacoma. Please be a leader and make decisions that protect the people and animals living in and along the Salish Sea.

Hoa Pantastico

Kent, WA
I'm writing to ask that the City of Tacoma Council strengthen the current Tacoma Tideflats Interim Regulations to include existing facilities.

While the current regulations have helped protect us from some polluting industries, the ability for existing facilities to expand is dangerous for the health and wellbeing of our waters and communities.

Thank you for your time,

Nabila Comstock
Hello-

I understand there is a public meeting this evening of the Tacoma City Council, regarding expansion of interim regulations. I urge the Council to extend and expand regulations that prevent new fossil fuel use in the Port of Tacoma.

Time is running out to protect our beautiful Pacific Northwest from the effects of climate change, and Tacoma should be helping lead this effort!

Thank you,
Ben Heege
Dear Tacoma Officials,

As Tacoma works to respond and protect the public from the COVID-19 crisis, I urge you to also protect public health and safety from the ongoing risks of fossil fuel development in Tacoma’s Tideflats by renewing and strengthening the Tideflats Interim Regulations.

Tacoma’s existing Interim Regulations are a critical protection and must be renewed, but also do not yet go far enough to protect against the pressing threat of expansions of existing facilities. Facility expansions result in the very same health and safety impacts as new facilities, yet Tacoma’s current policy allows these projects to be approved with no additional oversight or protections, whatsoever. We’ve seen this shortcoming clearly in the last month as SeaPort Sound bulk oil terminal is actively moving to increase their storage capacity by nearly 15%, to widespread community opposition.

We have continuously heard from members of Tacoma City Council over the last three years that strengthened Interim Regulations may not be necessary because existing regulation and oversight of Tacoma’s industrial lands would address risks associated with the expansions of existing facilities. Currently, the City has issued a preliminary recommendation to approve SeaPort Sound’s permit to expand without any evaluation of air quality impacts, rail and vessel traffic impacts, or spill risks associated with this proposal. Existing regulations clearly do not provide adequate oversight or equip the City with the tools it needs to determine if piecemeal expansions of fossil fuel facilities on the Tideflats are consistent with its broader values, policy goals, or a fair and sound process for the development of the Tideflats Subarea Plan.

The Interim Regulation and Subarea Plan can be a road map for how Tacoma and Pierce County will guide a recovery toward a cleaner, healthier, and more equitable economy. Tacoma’s valuable industrial land can and must be used to their highest use to drive local economic development. However, industries that endanger both our local economic vitality and our health only exacerbate our vulnerability to future crises, and should not be our aspiration as we work to recover from this emergency. In this exceptional and uncertain time, we urge you to renew and strengthen the Tideflats Interim Regulations and demonstrate visionary leadership to build a local economy that strengthens the health and wellness of all our communities.

Sincerely,
Monte Martin
1313 Fryar Ave
Sumner, WA 98390
From: Laura Ackerman <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>

Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 7:02 AM

To: City Clerk's Office

Subject: City of Tacoma, You MUST Strengthen the Interim Regulations

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

Tacoma City,  

As a concerned community member, I am writing to demand that the City of Tacoma do its job to protect our health and wellness by curbing the expansions of polluting industries that threaten the health of our communities and our emissions reduction targets.

We cannot allow Tacoma to continue to be a vital link in the global fossil fuel chain. Allowing the fossil fuel industry in Tacoma to expand only locks us into exacerbating the climate crisis.

With our health more at risk now than ever, we need to do what is right.

Strengthen the Interim Regulations to include existing facilities.

Laura Ackerman
simahafarm@gmail.com
3118 S Windsor Rd
Spokane, Washington 99224
From: Sorum, Doris  
Sent: Tuesday, September 29, 2020 7:00 AM  
To: Jenkins, Jessica  
Subject: FW: Tideflats Interim Regulation  
Attachments: Tideflats Interim Regulations.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up  
Flag Status: Flagged

Public Hearing jacket.

Doris Sorum  
City Clerk  
253-591-5361  
dsorum@cityoftacoma.org

From: Troy Goodman <tgoodman@transmontaigne.com>  
Sent: Monday, September 28, 2020 2:14 PM  
To: Sorum, Doris <DSORUM@cityoftacoma.org>  
Cc: Woodards, Victoria <victoria.woodards@cityoftacoma.org>; Hines, John <John.Hines@cityoftacoma.org>; Thoms, Robert <robert.thoms@cityoftacoma.org>; Blocker, Keith <Keith.Blocker@cityoftacoma.org>; Ushka, Catherine <cushka@cityoftacoma.org>; Beale, Chris <chris.beale@cityoftacoma.org>; Hunter, Lillian <lillian.hunter@cityoftacoma.org>; McCarthy, Conor <Conor.McCarthy@cityoftacoma.org>; Walker, Kristina <Kristina.Walker@cityoftacoma.org>  
Subject: Tideflats Interim Regulation

City Clerk,

Attached is our letter regarding the Tideflats Interim Regulations.

Respectfully,

Troy Goodman  
SeaPort Sound Terminal
September 28, 2020

Mayor Woodards and City Council
c/o Tacoma City Clerk
733 Market Street, Room 11
Tacoma, WA 98402

Re: Renewal of Tideflats Interim Regulations with No Changes

Honorable Mayor and Councilmembers,

SeaPort Sound Terminal is part of the energy sector and designated as an essential workforce in our community. Our employees have maintained operations to provide fuels for transportation, manufacturing and heating to our region during the Covid-19 shutdown.

We support the Tideflats Subarea Planning process. The issues regarding the tideflats impacts City, County, and State businesses that rely on the tideflats logistics. Evaluating all the issues through the subarea planning process allows for a collaborative review with all the stakeholders and develops a better plan forward.

The Interim Regulations do not need modification during the Tideflats Subarea Planning process. In addition, the Interim Regulations do not need modification during the Covid-19 shutdown. While the Tideflats Subarea Planning process proceeds, the existing permit process and expanded notification provides a robust review for any Tideflats proposed project.

We request that you renew the interim regulations with no changes.

Regards,

Troy Goodman
Senior Vice President
SeaPort Sound Terminal, LLC
Climate change is the most pressing issue for my generation. Youth will be forced to live with the consequences of fossil fuel extraction for the rest of our lives. You have a chance to make a difference. I’m asking you to please strengthen the interim regulations to include a ban on the expansion of current fossil fuel uses in the Port of Tacoma.

Lily Frenette

[she/her]
I know your job is probably really hard and I would like to ask you to please strengthen the interim regulations to include a ban on the expansion of current fossil fuel uses in the Port of Tacoma.

I have children who have studied under many climate, glaciology, and methane scientists, and WE AREN'T GOING TO MAKE IT IF WE DON'T TRANSITION OFF FOSSIL FUELS.
I feel so badly for the 20 million climate refugees the United Nations says we have already impacted. They lost their homes and way of life and don’t have any resources to transition.
Thank you and have a nice day while we still have our lovely planet.

Take Care,
Sandy Spears

Bainbridge Island
Hello -

I’m submitting a comment in lieu of attending the 5pm meeting today. Please strengthen the interim regulations and make it harder for fossil fuel based industry to expand at the Port of Tacoma. We live in a state that has committed to the Paris climate accords, and at this point, any expansion of fossil fuel industries is not in alignment with that commitment. When we breathe wildfire smoke and worry about wildfires taking out beloved places, we have to remember that climate change is the major contributor to that, and that climate change is fueled by rising greenhouse gas emissions — and a lot of that gets traced back to fossil fuel industries.

Thank you for adding this to the public record.

Valerie Costa
Dear Decision Makers of Tacoma,

Please strengthen the interim regulations to include a ban on the expansion of current fossil fuel uses in the Port of Tacoma.

Regards,

Rusty West, Climate Action Youth Monthly Zoom Activity Coordinator
Climate Action Families (home of Plant-for-the-Planet Washington, Climate Action Youth, & Climate Kids)
mobile: 206-909-3664
rustytwest@gmail.com climateactionfamilies.org
I am unable to attend the Tacoma City Council virtual public hearing on the Tideflats Interim Regulations Tues, Sept. 29, 2020, so I want to submit my comment in writing:

Please strengthen the Tideflats interim regulations to include a ban on the expansion of current fossil fuel uses in the Port of Tacoma. This ban should include any expansion by current fossil fuel uses such as US Oil, SeaPort Sound Terminal (formerly Targa), Philips 66, and, most importantly, the Puget Sound Energy LNG facility.

The decisions that you, the city council and staff, make in Tacoma affect all of us along the Salish Sea; that is why I, a resident of Seattle, am giving you the input above.

Thanks for taking this, my written comment for your Public Hearing Tuesday, Sept. 29, 2020.

Jim Bernthal
4733 46th Ave. S.
Seattle, WA 98118
Hello,

Please strengthen the interim regulations to include a ban on the expansion of current fossil fuel uses in the Port of Tacoma.

Thank you,

Sulakshana
Please strengthen the interim regulations to include a ban on the expansion of current fossil fuel uses in the Port of Tacoma.
Clean air and water is crucial for the future of Tacoma so please strengthen the interim regulations to include a ban on the expansion of current fossil fuel uses in the Port of Tacoma.

Elaine Hickman

Seattle
Please strengthen the interim regulations to include a ban on the expansion of current fossil fuel uses in the Port of Tacoma.

Peace and Health,

Andrea Gruszecki, ND
19805 Sunnyside Drive N. Apt. K-303
Shoreline, WA 98133
540-379-9796

"Natural forces within us are the true healers of disease" - Hippocrates
Dear City Council,

As a longtime Tacoma resident, and somehow who wants to live here for years to come, I urge you to strengthen interim regulations by banning the expansion of current fossil fuel uses in the Port of Tacoma. Let's leave a cleaner and greener world for our children and grandchildren.

Sincerely,

Josh Tenenberg
I live in West side of the Proctor neighborhood. I am a father and my child goes to Washington Elementary. Please strengthen the interim regulations to include a ban on the expansion of fossil fuel terminals and refineries in the Port of Tacoma.

There is no way to make fossil fuel infrastructure safe for our community and our future. We should not be the end of the pipe for petrochemical infrastructure. The Tidelands should not be maintained as a sacrifice zone.

Please ban fossil fuels in the Port on behalf of future generations so we can begin the transition to net zero carbon/methane future.

Thank you,
Michael Yadrick
4412 N 27th St
Tacoma, WA 98407

Sent from Mail for Windows 10
Comment about Tideflats Interim Regulations – Six Month Extension

To Whom It May Concern:

I am not an attorney nor have I read the pages and pages of legal documents concerning the Tideflats planning. I am just a resident who lives near the area and wanted to comment on this.

I feel that the city should not cave in to or succumb to Big Business in the Tideflat area. Tacoma is a city with residents that live close to the port area. It is a beautiful urban area that should be preserved as much as possible.

In the past I understand there was a lot of pollution in Commencement Bay and Point Ruston. It has been cleaned up somewhat but I am sure it is still somewhat toxic. The air smells bad in Tacoma. There is a lot of extra traffic from the trucks going to and from the Port. To add another polluting big business would be devastating to the people. We need to have clean, renewable energy not a plastics plant or PSE.

Commencement Bay must have looked beautiful years ago, before it was polluted and destroyed by big business, which consists of greedy people who do not care what happens to people. They can never get enough money and power to be happy and do not think of the consequences of their actions, they have no empathy.

Thank you for allowing me to comment. I hope someone is actually reading this, someone who is not taking bribes.
Esteemed Tacoma City Council members,

I am writing today for two reasons:

1) Amend the Tideflats Interim Regulations to include existing facilities like Seaport Sound and U.S. Oil and Refining. Amend the regulations to prohibit additional growth of these current businesses and others like them. Amend the Tideflats Interim Regulations so that growth of current fossil fuel and heavy industry related business is prohibited until a Subarea Plan is developed.

I am a 20-year resident of NE Tacoma. Just this past summer, as I was driving highway 509 from NE Tacoma to Tacoma, an intense smell of oil/gas enveloped me. I thought something was wrong with my car, so I stopped just past Modutech Marine. I found nothing wrong with my car. It’s then I realized the smell coincided with passing the Seaport Sound storage facilities. The oil/gas smell was so strong from the Seaport Sound facilities I truly thought there was there was a problem! With growth at Seaport Sound I suspect intense oil/gas smells to only grow. Just when we have done so well at eliminating "the aroma of Tacoma"!

Speaking of the "aroma of Tacoma", since I have lived in Tacoma, our reputation as "industrial", and "the black sheep" city south of Seattle has waned, substantially. I am now very proud to be a Tacoma resident! In fact, I thoroughly believe Tacoma has the will, intelligence, and capabilities to grow even further past the "black sheep" reputation and become a leader in "new" economies in the Puget Sound. Yet we can only do this by moving beyond fossil fuel industries. Please, please, join me and so many Tacoma residents in wanting to move away from fossil fuel industries and heavy industry of any kind. Keep our Sound and its people healthy and proud.

Thank you for your leadership.

2) Define how much time interim regulations can be in place. The Tideflats Interim Regulations started in 2017. For the Tideflats Interim Regulations to be perpetually renewed is not action, nor does renewal provide incentive for the hard work necessary to write a Subarea Plan. Define interim regulations to be in place a maximum number of years, for example, three years or five years. We need action on the Subarea Plan!!

Sincerely, honestly, and with highest regard,

Dana Peregrine
NE Tacoma
Tacoma City,

Dear Council Members,

At a time when we are seeing more and more natural disasters related to climate change and the direct link between climate change and the use of fossil fuels, I ask that you use your powers, knowledge, and abilities to decrease Tacoma’s involvement in fossil fuel processing, storage, and transport.

We can no longer afford to wait for more studies, nor can we let ourselves be pushed around and coerced by the fossil fuel industry.

As a former national park ranger who experienced first-hand the trauma and destruction of the 1994 Rat Creek Fire in Washington, and a Tacoma resident who experienced the days of smoke filled skies this summer of 2020 when I could not go outside into my own back yard due to dangerous air quality, I can say that unless we take strong action, such fire events, as well as other climate change natural disasters, will only get worse.

You are all aware of the myriad other impacts, large and small, due to the continued use of fossil fuels. We now have economically viable, cleaner, and safer fuel alternatives to the continued use of fossil fuels.

Fossil fuels are a finite resource and we should be putting our energy, thought, and initiative into increasing the use of alternative fuels (whether they be solar, wind, geothermal, etc.) rather then continuing to support a doomed and dying fossil fuel industry.

As a concerned community member, I am writing to demand that the City of Tacoma do it’s job to protect our health and wellness by curbing the expansions of polluting industries that threaten the health of our communities and our emissions reduction targets.

We cannot allow Tacoma to continue to be a vital link in the global fossil fuel chain. Allowing the fossil fuel industry in Tacoma to expand only locks us into exacerbating the climate crisis.

With our health more at risk now than ever, we need to do what is right.
Strengthen the Interim Regulations to include existing facilities.

Thank you for taking the time to read my comments.

Sincerely,
Michele LaFontaine

Michele LaFontaine
mlafontaine@pierce.ctc.edu
11117 110th St SW
Tacoma, WA, Washington 98498
To protect the health and safety of Tacoma, the Interim Regulations must be extended to prohibit expansions and conversions of existing facilities. Strengthened interim regulations are necessary to ensure public oversight over new fossil fuel investments and protect our local health and safety. At this time of global warming, wild fires, and animal extinction it is imperative that fossil fuels be fazed out. Investments need to be made for true renewable energy sources rather than investing in an obsolete fuels.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Diane Shaughnessy
Tacoma, WA
Please strengthen interim regulations to include a ban on expansion of fossil fuel facilities.

It is painfully obvious, with climate change related catastrophes hitting simultaneously in the last month, and chronic negative effects on our health, well being and economy, that we cannot afford any further development that enables fossil fuel use.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Margaret W Bone, MD
hello-
please strengthen the interim regulations to include a ban on the expansion of current fossil fuel uses in the Port of Tacoma. If the recent smoke from a fossil fueled climate catastrophe is not enough of a reminder that time is running out for transitioning to renewable energy, what is?
sincerely, and with best wishes to you all
edward goldstein
1217 S 9th St.
Tacoma
To Tacoma City Council:

Please strengthen the interim regulations to include a ban on the expansion of current fossil fuel uses in the Port of Tacoma. Without a ban on expansion, the regulations are not doing the job. Any new fossil fuel infrastructure in the Port of Tacoma will have negative impacts on our community and our efforts to combat climate change. What are we waiting for?

Regards,
Debra Olsen
8222 S Park Ave
Tacoma, WA 98408
To the City Clerk:

Protecting the environment is my top priority. I urge you to strengthen the interim regulations to include a ban on the expansion of current fossil fuel uses in the Port of Tacoma. Climate change is upon us, here now, and it is crucial to reduce fossil fuels use on the way to eliminating them.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sara Bhakti, Ph.D.
From: jaala smith <jaalasmith@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 28, 2020 1:41 PM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: Public Comment

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Please strengthen the interim regulations to include a ban on the expansion of current fossil fuel uses in the Port of Tacoma.

Thank you,
Jaala Smith

253.208.1181
To whom it may concern,

Please strengthen the interim regulations to include a ban on the expansion of current fossil fuel uses in the Port of Tacoma. Climate change is happening faster and faster. Climate change fire smoke just kept all of us locked in our houses. Anything that can be done should be done.

Thank you,

Lynne Ashton
Dear City Councilmembers,

My letter is in regards to the hearing tomorrow on 9/29/20 on the renewal of regulations banning new fossil fuel infrastructure in the Tacoma community.

Although I live in Seattle, what happens anywhere in the Salish Sea affects us all. Particularly in the wake of devastating Climate Fires (and ongoing fire danger) to not close the loophole on the potential of expansion of existing facilities is downright irresponsible and against our economic interests as a State and our children’s futures.

To protect the health and safety of Tacoma, the Interim Regulations **must be extended to prohibit expansions and conversions of existing facilities**.

Please move to do so at this time. Your fellow Salish Sea partners and all of our children thank you for the work you do.

Best regards,
Anita Peñuelas MD,MPH
(206) 920-4161 cell
Seattle, Wa 98115
Dear Tacoma Officials,

As Tacoma works to respond and protect the public from the COVID-19 crisis, I urge you to also protect public health and safety from the ongoing risks of fossil fuel development in Tacoma’s Tideflats by renewing and strengthening the Tideflats Interim Regulations.

Tacoma’s existing Interim Regulations are a critical protection and must be renewed, but also do not yet go far enough to protect against the pressing threat of expansions of existing facilities. Facility expansions result in the very same health and safety impacts as new facilities, yet Tacoma’s current policy allows these projects to be approved with no additional oversight or protections, whatsoever. We’ve seen this shortcoming clearly in the last month as SeaPort Sound bulk oil terminal is actively moving to increase their storage capacity by nearly 15%, to widespread community opposition.

We have continuously heard from members of Tacoma City Council over the last three years that strengthened Interim Regulations may not be necessary because existing regulation and oversight of Tacoma’s industrial lands would address risks associated with the expansions of existing facilities. Currently, the City has issued a preliminary recommendation to approve SeaPort Sound’s permit to expand without any evaluation of air quality impacts, rail and vessel traffic impacts, or spill risks associated with this proposal. Existing regulations clearly do not provide adequate oversight or equip the City the tools it needs to determine if piecemeal expansions of fossil fuel facilities on the Tideflats are consistent with its broader values, policy goals, or a fair and sound process for the development of the Tideflats Subarea Plan.

The Interim Regulation and Subarea Plan can be a road map for how Tacoma and Pierce County will guide a recovery toward a cleaner, healthier, and more equitable economy. Tacoma’s valuable industrial land can and must be used to their highest use to drive local economic development. However, industries that endanger both our local economic vitality and our health only exacerbate our vulnerability to future crises, and should not be our aspiration as we work to recover from this emergency. In this exceptional and uncertain time, we urge you to renew and strengthen the Tideflats Interim Regulations and demonstrate visionary leadership to build a local economy that strengthens the health and wellness of all our communities.

We do not need any more fossil fuels to heat the earth hotter than it already is.!

Sincerely,
Tom Harris
15902 13th Ave Ct E
Tacoma, WA 98445
From: Kyla Anderson <info@sg.actionnetwork.org>
Sent: Saturday, September 26, 2020 8:19 AM
To: City Clerk's Office
Subject: City of Tacoma, You MUST Strengthen the Interim Regulations

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Tacoma City,

As a concerned community member, I am writing to demand that the City of Tacoma do its job to protect our health and wellness by curbing the expansions of polluting industries that threaten the health of our communities and our emissions reduction targets.

We cannot allow Tacoma to continue to be a vital link in the global fossil fuel chain. Allowing the fossil fuel industry in Tacoma to expand only locks us into exacerbating the climate crisis.

With our health more at risk now than ever, we need to do what is right.

Strengthen the Interim Regulations to include existing facilities.

Kyla Anderson
sportzygirlkyla@yahoo.com
P.O. Box 1934
Milton, Washington 98354
Good Afternoon Mayor Woodards and Councilmembers,

Please see the attached letter regarding the fifth renewal of the Tideflats Interim Regulations.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged
September 18, 2020

The Honorable Mayor Woodards and Council  
c/o Tacoma City Clerk  
733 Market Street, Room 11  
Tacoma, Washington 98402  

Sent via post mail and e-mail

Subject: Tideflats Interim Regulations – 5th Six-Month Extension

Dear Madame Mayor Woodards and Councilmembers:

Thank you for accepting this letter on behalf of the Port of Tacoma regarding the proposed extension of the Tideflats Interim Regulations. Consistent with previous correspondence and testimony, the Port of Tacoma position remains the same as we have previously expressed. We have participated fully in and continue to support the subarea planning process, which we continue to believe is the best forum to discuss these issues. Additionally, as our attorney has previously pointed out, the process for adoption and content of the interim regulations for the Port Container Element of the City’s Comprehensive Plan are likely legally flawed.

We acknowledge also that the City’s current review of these interim regulations comes at a time when governments, communities, business owners, employees and employers are facing the unprecedented challenge of coping with the COVID-19 threat. It is a time of immense upheaval and uncertainty. The City, like the Port and other governments, is valiantly working in the face of these challenges to maintain even just the status quo of everyday business. Layered on top of that is the priority of keeping people safe and well.

We do not believe that this is the time to increase the strain on any element of the community through distraction of potential changes to the interim regulations. The City has characterized the Interim Regulations as a “pause”. We ask that if the City Council deems the pause is still necessary, that the six-month extension result in interim regulations without any changes. The Port believes that decisions on permanent Tideflats zoning and land use deserves a meaningful and comprehensive approach. Any changes to the permanent regulations must be consistent with the Growth Management Act – including the Container Port Element, the final Tideflats Subarea Plan, and the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA).

The Port of Tacoma is a countywide organization formed, and continues to operate, with the purpose of job creation, environmental stewardship, and driving economic vitality. We endeavor to meet this purpose in parallel with the protection of natural resources and spreading economic impact and opportunity throughout the region. To continue this endeavor, it is imperative that our maritime, manufacturing, and industrial lands are protected from encroachment, and that a broad spectrum of industrial uses are allowed in the Tideflats.
We look forward to continued cooperation within the context of the Tideflats Subarea Plan, a process separate from the Interim Regulations, as noted in the August Steering Committee communications. Should you or your staff have any questions, please feel free to contact the Port of Tacoma Government Affairs Manager, Evette Mason, at 253/383-9435 or emason@portoftacoma.com.

Sincerely,

John McCarthy, Port of Tacoma Commission President
Member of Subarea Plan Steering Committee

---

2 Real estate and marine cargo operations generate more than 42,100 jobs, $9.3 billion in business revenue and $2.84 billion in labor income through industrial lease tenants and the movement of marine cargo. Port-related economic activity also generates nearly $101 million in state tax revenue each year.
To the Tacoma City Council:

Please extend the Interim Regulations for the Tideflats and other heavy industrial zoning districts. Any new residential development along the NE Tacoma shoreline and slopes of Marine View Drive deserves full public attention, consideration, and discussion. This is not possible with the current Covid situation and virtual Council meetings.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jenny Davidson

1812 Austin Rd NE
Tacoma WA 98422
As a resident of NorthEast Tacoma who frequently travels through the tideflats along Route 509 I strongly support extending the existing Interim Regulations for 6 months.
Please record my Public Comment for the September 29 hearing on Tidelands interim regulations.

I support passage of the regulations, but I think they should be amended — the pause on residential development should be changed. The area is too general. If you look at the map online of the "shores along marine view drive" it appears to shade in pink quite a bit of suitable land for new housing, which we desperately need in this area. I agree that the land just above the port should remain unused, but the land north of east 11th street should be open to new housing, where geography allows.

Thank you.

Benjamin Geachard
3597 Fawcett Ave
Tacoma, WA 98418

RECEIVED
SEP 08 2020
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE