

There is a book called "Strangers in Their Own Land" by Arlie Russell Hochschild. It's about people's inside stories from the two sides in Southern Louisiana; those that want the virtually unregulated oil industry reined in for environmental protection verses the workers at the plants and oil refineries who fear regulation because of jobs.

The conversations I've been hearing remind me a lot of the ones in this book. The only difference is that we are not strangers in our own land. We know who we are and what we want. I believe everyone here shares the goal of a thriving economy full of jobs *with* a clean environment that is pleasant to live in, with clean water, soil, and air.

Regulation is the insurance policy for *all* of these things.

According to page 78 of Hochschild's book, "a 2016 survey by the Organization of for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) found that strict environmental policies improved, rather than handicapped, competitiveness on the international market."

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How can this be? (change tone) What really attracts industry is people. Companies can have unlimited wealth from unrestricted growth, but no amount of money can buy workers to run their plants when no one wants to live within miles of them.

Everyone prefers to live in a place with a clean, beautiful, pleasant environment that is there *because of* regulation.

Therefore, I think everyone in this room has a common ground. We just couldn't see it yet. Hopefully we can see it a little clearer now, and I hope that we can equally agree that the code amendments for Cherry Point should be written to require conditional use permits for all non-maintenance projects, so that the industry can interface with the public *as well as* county officials to find this balance, project-by-project.