

I am a US citizen currently residing in British Columbia. I frequently travel through the area where the smelter is proposed to be built, but my concerns are not about my own personal health. My concerns are:

- 1) Environmental impacts
  - a) pollution of air and watersheds via acid rain created by sulphur dioxide and nitrogen oxide
  - b) coal not only creates pollution in its extraction, its combustion and its mine tailings, but contributes even more to global warming than other fossil fuels.
- 2) Human health impacts  
Those who live downwind from coal-fired plants experience higher rates of asthma and heart disease and other negative health impacts.
- 3) The smelter would be built on traditional Kalispell territory and the tribe is opposed.

I encourage the Department of Ecology to look carefully at the number of jobs projected since proponents of big development projects do display a tendency to inflate job numbers that are actually available to the local workforce.

Thank you for your consideration.  
Carolee Colter