



Friends of the Clearwater

PO Box 9241 Moscow, ID 83843

Phone (208) 882-9755

www.friendsoftheclearwater.org

October 26, 2018

Grant Pfeifer
WA Department of Environment
4601 N. Monroe
Spokane, WA 99205

Sent via Email to: gpfe46@ecy.wa.gov, PacWestSiliconEIS@ecy.wa.gov and online.

Re: Scoping comments on proposed PacWest Silicon's Smelter

Dear Mr. Pfeifer:

The following brief comments regarding the proposed PacWest Silicon Smelter (smelter) are from Friends of the Clearwater, a nonprofit conservation organization headquartered in north-central Idaho. Our organization is concerned about the public wildlands, watersheds, and wildlife in the Clearwater basin and the immediate surrounding area. Our comments are very limited in scope due to the lack of available information on the proposal.

We have serious reservations about the proposal. Our objections fall into two categories:

- We are concerned that air pollution from the proposed smelter could affect all of northern Idaho, including the Clearwater Basin. Wind is often from the northwest in our area and that could pose a significant threat to the national forests and watersheds in the Clearwater region as well as the health of people. During recent summers, smoke from wildfires in British Columbia affected the Clearwater Basin even in years where there were no fires in our local area. This smelter is closer than British Columbia. Further, the tragic legacy of pollution in northern Idaho from smelting in the Silver Valley has yet to be rectified.
- We are concerned about the cumulative impacts of this proposal along with other pollution sources and development in the greater region. Everything from increased traffic to the effect of the smelter's pollution on the quality of precipitation (acid rain or its equivalent) must be considered.

Please keep us updated on this proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gary Macfarlane". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial 'G' and 'M'.

Gary Macfarlane