

Richard Galbreath

The DoE needs to do an air-quality monitoring study of at least 1-year's duration in Newport, WA and not in another location. We have a very significant inversion weather pattern in Newport. This also extends to Bonner County, ID, and those residents would be affected by the emissions from the proposed smelter. I know, because I used to live in Priest River for many years. The smoke from forest fires would hang in the air for weeks in this entire area, much like the choking smoke in Newport this last summer. I want the DoE to study how the projected emissions from the smelter would add to the very poor air quality we experience during these periods. I want PacWest to explain how they would mitigate the emissions from this plant - would they shut down in adverse weather conditions? Who will monitor the emissions and would it be on-site? I'm concerned about the location of this plant over the Little Spokane aquifer as well as run off into the Pend Oreille River - how will water quality and quantity be affected and how will this be studied? How will it affect property of home owners and farmers? How will it affect the local wells? How will the DoE select the contractor to assess - how will the DoE insure the study will be truly independent - the contractor hired by DoE will produce the results wanted by the employer, which is the DoE, which so far has been very pro-smelter. The long-term health effects of the contaminants released need to be studied in detail of each contaminant and the amount of the contaminants should be examined on a worst-case scenario and not the best projections of PacWest which are most likely not realistic. Thank you.