

Dallas Becker

Dear Mr. Pfeifer and everyone at the WA Dept of Ecology,

As you are perhaps aware, Pend Oreille County experiences inversions multiple times a year; add to that the growing intensity and length of the forest fire season in Canada and the USA. The smoke from the wildfires has engulfed our county in a most intense way in the past four years and especially in the past two years. please read and reflect on the following links that show a forecast for forest fire smoke in counties across this county. Please read the second link for in-depth information on how human health will be profoundly affected.

[medialibrary.climatecentral.org/resources/wildfire-smoke-waves-2018](https://www.climatecentral.org/resources/wildfire-smoke-waves-2018)

[https://www.missoulaclimate.org/uploads/.../smokewaves_climatechangepub_2016.pdf...](https://www.missoulaclimate.org/uploads/.../smokewaves_climatechangepub_2016.pdf)

Smoke waves are likely to be especially deleterious to human health (Delfino et al. 2002; Hänninen et al. 2009; Moore et al. 2006) because of exposure to very high levels of PM2.5. We also estimated that substantial populations of elderly, children, people living in poverty, and non-white individuals will be exposed to smoke waves; these populations may be the most vulnerable to the health risks related to exposure to PM2.5 from wildfires. Our results, which identify regions and populations of high risk, can aid decision makers in wildfire management, public health, and climate change policies to mitigate the occurrence and associated consequences of wildfires.

Should a major polluter like the proposed silicon smelter be added to the mix in Newport WA, all life will be harmed due to significant levels of air pollution.

On October 8, 2018 as you are also aware, the United Nations' Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change released a report on the forthcoming impacts of climate change. The consensus? It's not looking good

The IPCC maps out four pathways to achieve 1.5C, with different combinations of land use and technological change. Reforestation is essential to all of them as are shifts to electric transport systems and greater adoption of carbon capture technology.

Pend Oreille County is looking for a solution to its economic woes, let us put creative energy into managing and caring for the beautiful forests that are enhancing the state of Washington.

The report finds that limiting global warming to 1.5°C would require "rapid and far-reaching" transitions in land, energy, industry, buildings, transport, and cities. Global net human-caused emissions of carbon dioxide (CO2) would need to fall by about 45 percent from 2010 levels by 2030, reaching 'net zero' around 2050. This means that any remaining emissions would need to be balanced by removing CO2 from the air.

"The best way to remove carbon dioxide from the air," explains MIT engineer Howard Herzog in his book Carbon Capture, is "to not release it into the air in the first place," Joyce reports.

On behalf of planet Earth, and all life here, please do not allow PaCWest to build a silicon smelter in Newport WA. They have revealed the amount of CO2 that will be released along with other pollutants. We cannot add to the inversions and wildfire smoke with a major polluter like a silicon smelter. Everyone living in Pend Oreille County, in the state of WA, in the state of Idaho and the Canadian provinces where the water will flow from this area will be negatively affected.

Please raise this investigation to the level of NEPA, this is a concern that is at a national level

because so many states will be affected including some provinces in Canada.

Please ensure that the gold standard for air monitoring at the proposed location of the silicon smelter takes place and that this area is monitored for an entire year.

Thank you for employing all of your research and resources to concluding that a silicon smelter in Newport WA will not happen.

Sincerely,
Dallas Becker
Resident of Pend Oreille County