

Anonymous Anonymous

I adamantly oppose the proposed Newport Smelter. The smelter will destroy the pristine beauty of Pend Oreille County and Bonner County. We, which should include the Department of Ecology, as a steward of the environment, cannot let this happen. Under no financial circumstance should this be allowed. Spend one day boating on the river from Pend Oreille to Bonner County and open your eyes to the beauty and magnificence of this place. Then consider the moral burden if you have any part of this destruction. No one should want this blood on their hands. This is the blood of all the animals, eagles, birds, fish, trees, all the life that's been here thousands of years before us, that we have no business to take away for corporate greed and WA state tax greed. We are here such a short time on this earth, it's not worth the short-term financial gain. There are not many areas of raw, pristine beauty left in the world, it's our duty to protect it.

While you're taking that boat ride, pay close attention to the countless multi-million-dollar homes. Do you think those people care about \$17/hr. jobs in a 140-degree plant? NO. They care about this area, that's why they built the mansions and they'll pay the price to save it. This wealth and passion supersede PacWest's deep pockets. It's clear PacWest did a terrible job researching the rest of the area, when they targeted Newport. Very poor judgement and under estimation.

The resistance to the smelter is just beginning. It's strong and it's growing fast. There is a lot of money in this area and if it takes money to fight money, then fine. Bring it on PacWest. No one cares more than we do and no one will fight harder than those that love this area. It's not just a surface love, it's a love from the soul. The true love of feeling connected to nature because we are connected. You come for this place, you come for us. You have no idea the fight that we will fight and the lengths we will go and the amount of money we're willing to spend. This is perhaps THE meaning of my life, to protect this area, and I'll give everything I have and everything I am. I am not the only one. There are many, many more like me and we will continue this battle like its life and death. Because it is.