

Questions I have about the PACWEST smelter:

There is no guarantee that the silicon produced at the Newport smelter will be used to make solar cells. How can it be that the pollution caused by PacWest can be offset by the HOPE of producing solar cells with their product?

What is the design of their sewer system? The city of Newport has turned them down for connection.

How can PacWest say, "no wastewater would be discharged into the ground" when they plan to use stormwater runoff to control dust and to saturate wood chips? Either that dust will dry out and enter our air or it will slowly seep into the ground.

Do the citizens of Pend Oreille and Bonner counties fully understand that PacWest is expecting them to provide fire protection, police protection, emergency services, additional homes, schools and health care facilities? The sudden impact of these needs on our small, poor, rural communities is not to be taken lightly without substantial prior planning and understanding of our additional tax burden.

Jason Tymco has stated that none of the threatened or endangered species listed for Pend Oreille county have been observed in the area of the proposed smelter. Does he really think the pollution from his smelter will stop on his hillside? How far will the pollution travel? Does he think the neighboring bat colony will not be impacted? Turning forested land into a smelter site will impact the animals and plants living there even if they are considered to be ORDINARY. There is no other place for them to go. They will die. Is it OK to destroy public forested land into an industrial site?

What sort of insurance or bond will PacWest be required to have to cover the costs to our damaged forests, air, water, wildlife, and human health?

When PacWest eventually leaves town will they be required to turn the forest back into forest?

Jason Tymco plans to double the capacity and therefore the pollution of his smelter based on his ability to sell his product not based on the additional pollution his plant will cause. Are the doubled pollution figures being considered by our Department of Ecology or just the first phase?

Jason Tymco states that "on-site structures are not expected to impact views from neighboring properties." His definition of "neighboring" is different from mine. I live in Newport on Quail Loop. Several of my neighbors look across town directly at the proposed smelter. What was a view of forest will become a view of an industrial site. If you can see houses in town from the site, the people in those houses will have a view of the smelter. How will that view affect our property values? What liability does PacWest have?

How can it be that storing raw materials inside buildings will prevent the dust of those materials from entering our air? I am not an engineer, but those buildings will have doors through which dust will escape. What measures will PacWest take to prevent our exposure to that dust?

The transportation of coal, wood, charcoal, and silicon will impact the air along the entire route of their journeys. What responsibility will PacWest have to compensate other states for the pollution caused? What will PacWest do to reduce the impact of those contaminants?

The fumes from the delivery diesel trucks and trains will add to the pollution from the smelter. How will PacWest reduce the impact of that pollution? (Electric vehicles?)

How will disruption of the dump site located on/near the property affect the groundwater?

The smelter site is close to the water recharge zones for the drinking water of Oldtown and Newport. It is also near the headwaters of the Little Spokane River. Will our city water be contaminated by raw materials which are watered down to reduce dust? How could PacWest repair or replace our drinking water supply?

Who will monitor PacWest's water usage? They are being allowed 10,000 gallons a day for industrial use and personal use. But they were also allowed unlimited water for livestock and lawn care. Since they were turned down by the city of Newport for 240,000 gallons a day. It sure seems that oversight in this area will be necessary. How will their wells affect the water supplies of Newport, Oldtown, and the Little Spokane River?

Who will be responsible for the construction and repair of access roads to the smelter? How will these roads be impacted during the springtime road break-up?

What roads and railways will be used for materials and product transportation? The complete lack of information for this topic makes it difficult for citizens to give necessary and appropriate input.

Thank you for conducting this citizen input process!

Jan Wood
550 Quail Loop
Newport, Washington 99156
jwoodnewport@gmail.com
509-630-3962