

Dallas Becker

Dept of Ecology Team,

Please consider the dramatic negative impact that the proposed smelter will have on our County and on our Idaho neighbors. There is already reductions in property value in neighboring properties and those downwind. I personally know of at least three families that were hoping to purchase land in our county close to Newport and they have decided to wait-if a smelter comes to Newport they will go elsewhere. Consider the loss of rural lifestyle that people living in the area sought when choosing to live here. Consider the exact level of job creation and net wealth generated by the project for the LOCAL COMMUNITY. Consider the impact of the revenue that will leave the USA and go to the Canadian owners! Consider the degradation of traditional homelands where people do not have an option or desire to relocate. Consider the public safety considerations for response to industrial accidents.

Consider that the rich and endless possibilities for Eco-Tourism will be rendered impossible.

Tourists will not come to an area afflicted with a silicone smelter.

People will come if Pend Oreille County carefully develops the area for Eco-Tourism. This will bring much more money to the county-Tourists need places to stay, restaurants to eat in, food stores, they will visit the Newport museum, they will consider moving to our area!