

Pamela Luby

Scoping questions for PacWest Silicon Smelter/ Newport WA.

Pend Oreille County encounters many air inversion problems each year. The citizens are asked not to burn wood in their wood burning stoves. Many citizens rely on wood fires for heat and cooking. During these times will the smelter be shut down to stop poor air quality? This is a catch 22 problem, if they shut down for air quality, when they start up the smelter will run un-bagged for 2 weeks, greatly increasing the particulate matter in our air. What is PacWest planning to do to avert this problem? Or are the citizens held hostage to this environmental problem?

I grow my own vegetables and medicinal plants and make my own products. I grow for my own use and to make baskets for presents for my friends. What chemicals will be added to my plants from the emissions of the green house grasses from this smelter? What are the health effects of these emissions from ingestion of plants and the oils made from these plants on the neurological systems of animals and humans. Many of the oils are rubbed into the skin.

Does PacWest legally own the land on the proposed railroad loop. Are they able to acquire this land, or is this a false fact from them? Will the new owners be required to follow environmental standards?

How will PacWest mitigate the harmful effects of sulfur dioxide on the young and elderly?

How will fugitive emissions be measured?

How many deaths p[er 1000 will the toxins create? Will health insurance rates be increased?

Who will provide emergency fire service? Medical services. Newport has stated they will not provide these services?

The fire districts do not have the equipment needed for fire suppression. How will this be accomplished? How will it be funded?

How will the smelter affect the wetlands surrounding their property?

What will be the effect on the water recharge zones on fresh water? What actions will you take to eliminate this problem. The city wells were paid for by HUD. Why is the federal government not involved. Why is a NEPA not issued?

Where is the storm water going? How will this affect ground water on the Little Spokane aquifer? Is the water over allocated?

Will the coal be covered during transport to Pend Oreille County?

How can you control the pollution during the pouring of the molten silica into the molds?

Why do you not have full scoping on the whole proposed project of 4 furnaces and 2 stacks?

What mitigations are proposed for the 174 tons of particulate matter released into the atmosphere? Will this particulate matter cling to clothing and brought into classrooms and homes?

How many retired people in Pend Oreille County, Bonner County and Boundary County will be

affected by this pollutions.

Why has NEPA not been requested as this smelter sits on the boundary of Idaho and Washington and the wind directions show effects on Montana?

What chemicals will be used during the crushing process and what are the effect? How will they be mitigated.

How will the medical systems treat silicosis? What are the short term and long term costs?

THIS IS NOT A GOOD LOCATION FOR THIS SMELTER. The topography shows wind drift and air inversions.

Please consider carefully and do not grant approval for this smelter.

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