

Erik Hammarlund

I oppose the proposed PacWest silicon smelter project for the following reasons:

The smelter would release pollutants into the atmosphere, including 320,000 tons greenhouse gases. Along with contributing to climate change, the sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxide produced can cause acid rain in a precious natural area. These pollutants are predicted to have negative impacts on lichens in the adjacent mountains, the primary source of food for endangered mountain caribou. Finally, the air pollutants produced by the smelter could cause asthma and other human health issues in residential areas adjacent to it and downwind. I suffer from asthma and it is greatly worsened in polluted areas.

In addition to my own deep concerns, I stand in solidarity with the Kalispell Tribe, which also opposes the project.