

## Jeff Koop

DOE, please investigate how these pollutants will affect honey bees which are incredibly susceptible to arsenic, lead and mercury pollution which will be emitted by the coal burning which is part of the smelter production. Honey bees are already stressed with over 80% of all feral bees dying world-wide in the last 25 years and over 40% of all domestic bees dying in the last year. A question for DOE is: Will this poison from the smelter kill pollinating bees and other insects as they visit plants covered with heavy metals from smoke stacks? Will these heavy metals show up in local honey? Should honey with arsenic, mercury and lead in it be consumed? Will this smelter put local honey producers out of business? Please indicate how these pollutants will affect organic gardens? Will trace elements of heavy metals be found in vegetables and fruits raised near the smelter? If so, will farmers' markets in the area have to list that local food may be contaminated by these heavy metals? At what point will an organic gardener not be allowed to say that they are organic if their garden is in the area under the pollution plume? Will this contribute to organic farmers going out of business or having to sell their produce as non-organic? Will animals that farmers raise under the plume have trace levels of heavy metals in their meat and eggs from ranging in grass or drinking water laced with heavy metals from the smelter?"