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In Pend Oreille County, Washington and in Bonner County Idaho we are surrounded by natural beauty and fresh air. We use the outdoors for recreation and for its natural resources. Many folks who live here depend on healthy natural resources for their livelihood. Visitors depend on it for vacations, recreational activities and to escape populated, polluted, or industrialized areas. Many groups and businesses own and operate retreat or resort areas here. We choose to live in a rural area, away from traffic, people and pollution. Will this project be possible without creating smog, traffic and population? Is it possible to keep our culture of outdoor life and recreation with 320,000 or more tons of emissions each year from a smelter? State lines and reservation boundaries do not define our communities, we are all one. The wishes of all property owners, residents and visitors should be considered when determining if the project will fit into our way of life. What impact will this project have in Pend Oreille County and Bonner County Idaho residents?

Most of the area is remote and forested with farms scattered throughout. Area wildlife and plants include: woodland caribou, grizzly bear, black bear, bobcat, cougar, elk, Canada lynx, great gray owl, moose, long eared bats, yellow billed cuckoo, north American wolverine, white bark pine, white-headed woodpecker, ruffed grouse, golden and bald eagles, great blue heron, westslope cutthroat trout, bull trout, Canadian geese, and many riparian species, including turtles and spotted frogs. Is it possible to emit more than 320,000 tons of carbon emissions and protect critical habitats here? How will you know if it is possible to do both?

County plans address community growth, health and environment issues. They are designed to help improve the communities we live in and support. The county comprehensive plan needs to be forefront in determining a fit for this project in our community. Can Pend Oreille County residents and government invest in, preserve and promote its beautiful recreational and wilderness areas while at the same time dump more than 320,000 tons of carbon emissions into it? Physically speaking, what does 320,000 tons of emissions look like?

PacWest Silicon project description states, "On site structures are not expected to impact views from neighboring properties, which are blocked by either higher ground or trees, and no lighting or glare issues are anticipated." It is difficult to respond to the project when the information either isn't available or when it is ever changing. Will the smelter, its light or air emissions be visible in our community? Will it be visible from area view and vista points?

A lot of information and business regarding this project has been conducted without public consideration. The project proposal is ever-changing and communications for this project leave many questions unanswered.

There are more questions than answers regarding this project. Our government resources have been used to promote and evolve this project for a few years now. The people who live, work and play here deserve more time, information and consideration.

Any business being done regarding the proposed smelter must be done in a manner that is open to the public, properly advertised and easily accessible to all. The public has a right to be informed and included. Decisions made regarding the smelter that were conducted in private or that weren't properly advertised or considered by the public should be reversed. Meeting agendas should include the topic to be discussed and approximate time. People attending meetings to consider smelter business should not be expected to sit through all the counties business.

There shouldn't be any meetings during hazardous weather events.

The public information should be posted in the paper of public record for both Bonner County Idaho and Pend Oreille County Washington.

Information dispersed to the public, from all sources including information from PacWest Silicon should include real information about the emissions of this project and the impacts on the LOCAL ENVIRONMENT.

There should be public transposition available to all smelter meetings.

*Washington State Law - RCW 42.56 The people of this state do not yield their sovereignty to the agencies that serve them. The people, in delegating authority, do not give their public servants the right to decide what is good for the people to know and what is not good for them to know. The people insist on remaining informed so that they may maintain control over the instruments that they have created.