

Tarna and John McCurtain

We spend our summers in Nordman, Idaho, which is near Priest Lake. During that time, we also attend events and shop in Spokane, Sandpoint, Priest River and Newport. We have been attending meetings and following posted information about the proposed PacWest Silicon smelter. Both of us are opposed to the construction of this plant. From the beginning, both the county commissioners and the the Canadian company proposing the plant have been secretive and disingenuous regarding the impact of the plant on jobs and the environment. This plant will harm the environment, both through admissions and through their use of water. They have under-reported both and have been misleading about risks to community health. Their numbers and their promises do not stand up to scrutiny. Their claim emissions will be offset by solar panels does not reduce the direct impact on those who will live next to this plant, and the number of jobs created have been highly exaggerated, given the rules related to NAFTA and the reality of automation. This area is reliant on tourism related to outdoor activities, this will be adversely impacted by this plant. Again, we OPPOSE giving PacWest a permit and would instead suggest the Washington Sate Attorney General's office investigate how this company purchased the land through PUD and how they obtained the local permits through the county commissioners.