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According to the EPA, "Exposure to traffic-related air pollution has been linked to a variety of short- and long-term health effects, including asthma, reduced lung function, impaired lung development in children, and cardiovascular effects in adults. Children's exposure to traffic-related air pollution while at school is a growing concern because many schools are located near heavily traveled roadways."

The proposed Newport silicon metal smelter will substantially increase heavy diesel trucking and coal car rail traffic on Highway 41 and Highway 2. (both highways pass by these schools as well as the increase in rail line and proposed rail loop). Since this proposed smelter intends to be constructed within less than 1/2 mile from a school of 200 students and faculty, plus within 2/3 to 1 mile of the Idaho Hill Elementary School, the Newport High School, Junior High and Elementary Schools, plus Headstart and various other preschool programs, how does PacWest hope to mitigate the increases in health risks to our population of students?

The DOE needs to study and calculate the increases in traffic, traffic pollution, the amount of pollution, the type of pollution and the health risks that will be there as a result of the proposed silicon metal smelter during construction and operation over a period of years. Plus, the increases in traffic, traffic pollution, amount of pollution, type of pollution and the health risks with the addition of two more furnaces and one additional stack.