

Chela Kunasz

I have friends who live in Pend Oreille County and another friend who has planned a trip there in the next few weeks as a tourist. I am seriously interested in visiting this lovely area myself within the next year or two. I have friends who live in other areas of Washington State. I'm concerned about pollution caused by the proposed Newport Silicon Smelter and hope that you will carefully study the effects of hundreds of thousands of tons of carbon dioxide it would release, as well as the emitted nitrogen oxides, sulfur dioxide, and carbon monoxide from the proposed smelter. I am also very concerned about the combination of pollution from this plant and wildfires, a real concern in the area. This should be studied as well as the possible pollution from a fire that would sweep this plant. As the smelting process produces mercury, arsenic, lead and cadmium, this is also a concern. These things affect the health of people living in or visiting the area. All of this also has a negative effect on tourism and the local economy as well as more global concerns from greenhouse gases adding to global warming for us all. Please include that effect in your study as well as studying the possible negative effect on tourism and related aspects of the local economy. I'm not a scientist who can tell you how to do these studies, but there are companies that do perform such environmental studies. Thank you for your consideration.