

Futurewise

Enclosed please find Futurewise's comments on the scope of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the PacWest Silicon silicon metal production plant near Newport Washington. SEPA # 201805012.



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futurewise.org

October 26, 2018

Mr. Grant Pfeifer, Regional Director
Eastern Regional Office
State of Washington Department of Ecology
4601 N. Monroe St.
Spokane, Washington 99205

Dear Regional Director Pfeifer:

Subject: Comments on the scope of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the PacWest Silicon silicon metal production plant near Newport Washington. SEPA # 201805012

Submitted using the online comment form at:
<http://sepa.ecology.commentinput.com/?id=p4CsA>

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the scope of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed PacWest Silicon silicon metal production plant near Newport Washington. Futurewise agrees that an EIS should be prepared. We also agree the EIS should analyze the land use impacts of the silicon metal production plant and whether the plant is authorized by the Pend Oreille County Comprehensive Plan, development regulations, and whether the proposed uses and the County policies and regulations are consistent with the Washington state land use laws. Further, we understand that Pend Oreille County, in an attempt to authorize the PacWest Silicon silicon metal production plant, is proposing to repeal the Public Lands comprehensive plan designation applied to the proposed PacWest Silicon site and all other Public Lands designations in the county and adopt a Rural-10 or another Rural comprehensive plan designation and zone for these lands. Since these amendments are to authorize the proposal, the EIS should analyze their environmental impacts and whether these amendments are consistent with the Pend Oreille County Comprehensive Plan and the state land use laws including the requirement to designate and protect forest lands of long-term commercial significance in RCW 36.70A.060(1) and RCW 36.70A.170(1).

As the scoping notice correctly identifies, land use is an element of the environment under SEPA and the proposed use will have a probable adverse impact on land use and the environment. The relationship to existing land use plans is also an element of the environment and the proposed use will have a probable adverse impact on existing land use plans and the environment.

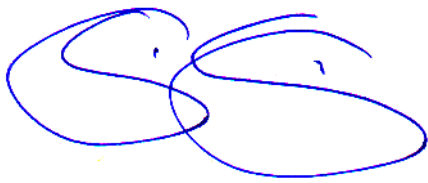
Thank you for considering our comments. If you require additional information, please contact Kitty Klitzke at telephone 206 343 0681 ext. 113 and email: kitty@futurewise.org or Tim Trohimovich at telephone (206) 343-0681 Ext. 102 and email: tim@futurewise.org.

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Very Truly Yours,



Kitty Klitzke
Spokane Program Director



Tim Trohimovich, AICP
Director of Planning & Law