

## **Smelter Comments**

I am concerned about the environmental impacts, transportation issues, and the overall social/economic impact of this project on the region. As I don't live in Washington, I don't have a vote but will live with the consequences of this decision.

**Environmental:** We live in one of the most beautiful places in the Northwest and our environment is already facing daunting challenges:

The issues of **air quality** - year round but especially during the "new normal" fire season and the inversion during the winter when our air is either filled with smoke or stagnant. The fire season is already impacting our growing season and is changing the quality of life for all of us – plants, animals and humans. We do not need or want any more challenges.

The issues of **water quality** – our lakes are filling with invasive species, fires are adding all kinds of acidifying chemicals, the addition of the residues from the smelter will accelerate the deterioration of the waters. Yes, we are "upstream" but the air will carry the particulate matter to our lake and this is unacceptable for the wildlife, the quality of the water and the use by humans.

**Transportation:** We are already facing an increase in **rail use** as coal and toxic chemicals flow past our doors and over the water. We do not need more traffic on our rails, we need less.

The same applies to **our roads** – we pay taxes for the maintenance of our roads – why should Idaho support the growth of traffic in Washington? We derive zero benefit and incur the expense and inconvenience.

**Social/Economic:** I can not find one reason on either the social or economic level that could possibly benefit Idaho. I am totally opposed to this plant coming in for some corporate profit and absolutely zero benefit and extremely serious and potentially disastrous consequences.

Karen Lanphear, 714 Lookout, Hope Idaho, 83836