

Ann Giantvalley

I appreciate the opportunity to submit a comment regarding the silicon smelter project proposed for Newport, Washington.

I, like so many of my friends and neighbors, am concerned with the environmental impact of this project. I believe it is necessary to take data from multiple years of the areas effected downwind, and obviously in the direct area, from this project.

I am not familiar with how water, air, soil is tested but extensive data is needed as Bonner County and the many towns and cities around it depend on good quality air, water, and soil for our daily living. Of course, one year of data is probably not enough because weather patterns of course vary from year to year. I doubt there are currently enough sensors in place and in a large enough area to have the data to determine how our area would be impacted by this project. This needs to be completed.

Obviously, rail and truck traffic are another huge consideration. Numbers of trucks and trains and the pollutants they produce must also be measured and considered.

Finally, I question why a Canadian company is choosing to do this project here versus in their own country. I think I know the answer to that: their country doesn't want/ allow this pollution fraught business within their borders. The jobs are not worth the long term effects.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of doing a thorough job of researching all the impact of this project. Doing the right action morally and keeping American values is difficult for businesses and government but it is vital for a healthy America.

Sincerely,
Ann Giantvalley