



Pend Oreille County

Board of Commissioners

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October 10, 2017

Maia Bellon, Director
Washington Department of Ecology
PO Box 47600
Olympia, WA 98504-7600

RE: Request for Lead Agency Status regarding HiTest Silicon

Dear Director Bellon:

Pend Oreille County formally requests that the Department of Ecology assume the Lead Agency status in accordance with the provisions of the Washington State Environmental Policy Act, including but not limited to the provisions of WAC 197-11-940. In addition, we ask that Pend Oreille County, the City of Newport, the Pend Oreille PUD, as well as Bonner County, the Town of Oldtown, and the City of Priest River, all in the State of Idaho, be designated as consulted agencies for the purposes of making the threshold determination, as well as when determining the scope and content of an environmental impact statement, if one is required.

HiTest Sand has formally announced its intent to apply for the state and local permits necessary to construct a \$325 million state of the art silicon production facility in unincorporated Pend Oreille County. This proposed facility has been designated as a project of statewide significance by Governor Inslee and would create 150 permanent jobs and 250-400 construction jobs in one of the most economically depressed counties in the state.

This project will require air quality permits from the Department of Ecology as well as permits and approvals from Pend Oreille County, the Pend Oreille PUD, and potentially the City of Newport, and Bonner County, Idaho. Given that this is a Project of Statewide Significance, no construction activities may be initiated until the required air quality permits are issued.

We encourage the Department to engage in government-to-government consultation with the sovereign Kalispel Tribe of Indians to determine the Tribe's interest in being designated as a consulted agency.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us directly or contact our HiTest Project Manager, Gregg Dohrn at greggdohrn@comcast.net or at 206-679-7507. Your interest and support is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

PEND OREILLE COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS


Karen Skoog, Chair


Stephen Kiss, Vice-Chair


Mike Manus, Commissioner

cc: Newport Mayor Shirley Sands
Newport City Administrator Ray King
PUD General Manager Colin Willenbrock
Bonner County Commissioner Jeff Connolly
Oldtown Planner Bryan Quayle
Kalispel Tribe of Indians Chairman Glen Nenema
Kalispel Tribe of Indians Vice Chairman Ray Pierre
Pend Oreille County EDC Director Jamie Wyrobek
County Consultant Gregg Dohrn
County Community Development Director Greg Snow