Pend Oreille County

Board of Commissioners

Karen Skoog
District #1

Mike Manus
District #2

Stephen Kiss
District # 3

Rhonda Cary
Clerk of the Board

Phone: 509-447-4119
FAX: 509 447-0595

PO Box 5025
Newport, WA 99156-5025

E-mail: **commissionersoffice@pendoreille.org**

September 26, 2017

Commissioner Daniel J. Peterson, President
Pend Oreille Public Utility District
130 N Washington
Newport, WA 99156

Dear President Peterson:

In anticipation that HiTest Sand will be announcing their intent to apply for the permits necessary to build a state-of-the-art silicon processing facility in our community, we are initiating a number of actions to promote the coordination of our local efforts in support of this industrial development project of statewide significance. While this project has the potential to have a tremendous impact on our local economy, it is critically important that we work closely together to keep our community fully informed throughout the environmental review and permitting process. As a result, we are establishing an Executive Committee of local elected officials to guide and coordinate our local efforts, and to advise the Board of County Commissioners throughout the permitting process. In addition, we hope that this Executive Committee, in conjunction with a corresponding Staff Coordinating Committee, and numerous work groups will enable us to maximize the economic benefits from this project in our community. It is our hope that the PUD will appoint one of the elected Commissioners to serve on the HiTest Executive Committee. In addition to an elected official from the PUD, we also hope to have elected officials representing the Port of Pend Oreille, the City of Newport, the Bonner County Board of Commissioners, and the Kalispel Tribe. We also hope that the Chair or Vice Chair of the Pend Oreille Economic Development Council will serve as an Ex Officio member. We anticipate that the group will meet once a month for approximately one hour, perhaps for breakfast or lunch. Prior to each meeting we will provide you with an agenda of project related matters that we will be addressing, which at a minimum will include an up to date briefing on the status of the project.

We have tentatively scheduled the first meeting of the Executive Committee for Thursday, October 5 at 9:00 a.m. in the Sandifur Room at Newport Community Hospital. We would greatly appreciate it if you would contact Clerk of the Board, Rhonda Cary at **rcary@pendoreille.org** or 509-447-4119 and confirm who will be representing the PUD.

The leadership that the PUD has demonstrated to date in working with HiTest has been tremendous, and we look forward to continuing our partnership in service to our community. If you, or your staff would like more information about the Executive Committee, please don't hesitate to contact Commissioner Manus at 509-671-1434 or the County HiTest Project Manager Gregg Dohrn at greggdohrn@comcast.net or 206-679-7507.

Your interest and support is greatly appreciated and we look forward to a representative of the PUD joining us on the 5th!

Sincerely,

PEND OREILLE COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Karen Skoog, Chair

Stephen Kiss, Vice-Chair

Mike Manus, Member

cc: Colin Willenbrock
Kim Gentle
Rhonda Cary
Jamie Wyrobek
Greg Snow