



Kalispel Tribe of Indians  
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October 3, 2017

Pend Oreille County Board of Commissioners  
PO Box 5025  
Newport, WA 99156-5025

Sent by email to: [commissionersoffice@pendoreille.org](mailto:commissionersoffice@pendoreille.org)

**RE: HiTest Executive Committee Invitation**

Dear County Commissioners:

Thank you for the invitation to serve on the HiTest Executive Committee and for recognizing the Kalispel Tribe as a sovereign nation and valued community partner. The Tribe is committed to working with you and other community leaders to evaluate the potential risks and benefits of the proposed smelter; however, it would be premature for us to serve on a committee whose stated objective is to support an industrial development we know next to nothing about. The Tribe has done a considerable amount of research on existing silicon smelters and has yet to identify one that does not generate a substantial amount of air pollution. We feel the burden is on HiTest to earn the community's support by providing data that proves the smelter will provide good jobs without compromising the air and natural resources that are central to our way of life.

If we have misunderstood the objective of the Executive Committee, please let me know. The Tribe is willing to appoint a Council member to sit on the Executive Committee if other Committee members are willing to reserve their support for the smelter until HiTest proves that it belongs in our community.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Glen Nenema".

Glen Nenema  
Chairman, Kalispel Tribe of Indians