



December 13, 2017

Dear Fellow Business Owner,

We are writing to you on behalf of our local communities and a way of life that is intertwined with the health and vitality of our most precious resource, magnificent Lake Pend Oreille. If you are like us, you understand how important it is to keep the Clark Fork-Pend Oreille Watershed clean and free of mining contamination – from its upper reaches in western Montana to Lake Pend Oreille and the Pend Oreille River. It is no exaggeration to say that a clean and healthy Lake Pend Oreille is crucial to our region’s prosperity and our own economic livelihoods, as well as our cherished quality of life.

Imagine what would happen if the proposed Rock Creek mine were to be built, and, sometime in the future, a catastrophic accident were to occur sending toxic mine tailings downstream. Such an occurrence happened in British Columbia just three years ago when Imperial Metal’s Mount Polley tailings dam collapsed in what has been called the worst environmental disaster in modern Canadian history. An estimated 24 million cubic meters of toxic water and tailings waste were flushed into Quesnel Lake and Quesnel River. Like Pend Oreille, Quesnel Lake was known as a prime tourist destination because of its beauty, depth (British Columbia’s deepest lake), forested and mountainous surroundings, and prized fishery. Sound familiar?

This is not a risk we are willing to take with Lake Pend Oreille. **It is our hope that you will join us in taking a stand for Lake Pend Oreille by signing the name of your business onto the position statement we have drafted on the accompanying page.** The Rock Creek Alliance will use this statement to demonstrate the widespread support for keeping our lake clean and safe from the perpetual pollution the mine would generate, and from the unacceptable

– over –

risks it poses. The position statement will be made available to state and federal legislators and decision-makers, and to the general public. **We urge you to return the enclosed card with your business signature as soon as possible so the resolve of our business community can be put to work in protecting our lake.**

Want to do more? Please also consider becoming a member of the Rock Creek Alliance. A local, grassroots organization, the Alliance is dependent upon community support to run its educational programs, hire experts and attorneys, and keep the pressure on elected officials and government agencies.

Thank you – on behalf of Lake Pend Oreille!

Sincerely,

Bill Borders
Borders, Osprey, and Chipmunks

John Edwards
Misty Mountain Furniture

Mary Thompson
Capt's Table

Kevin Nye
Outdoor Experience

Charlie Parrish
Evergreen Realty

Nicole French
Petal Talk

Rick and Randy Evans
Evans Brothers Coffee Roasters

Ron Mende
Ron's Electric

Dann Hall
Hallans Gallery

Brad Golphenee
Sandpoint Vacation Rentals

Tom and Marjorie Trulock
Heitman Docks

Bruce Trejos
Sports Plus

Jon Hagadone and Vicki Reich
Idaho Pour Authority

Peter Lucht
Thunder Ridge Coffee Roasting

Chris Bessler
Keokee :: media + marketing

Gregg Prummer
Winter Ridge Natural Foods

Linda Mitchell
Lake Pend Oreille Cruises