Copper Rules

My name is Sean Ormand

The question about the proposed copper rules seams to comes down to; do they adequately protect the health and welfare of the residents of Grant County?

As a resident of Grant County I want my health and welfare protected from all harm, but of course nobody but God can protect me from all harm, so that narrows it to down what I should reasonably expect to be protected from by those we have elected to serve on a governmental level who in turn appoint or hire experts to assess the proper balance between under-protected and over-protected, taking as much as is reasonably possible into consideration. This appears to me to be what the Proposed Copper Rules have done.

Some of you will agree with me some will disagree, but please remember for those of us who actually live here and intend on staying here that it’s better to come to a place of compromise than to allow division to weaken us all.

Whether you have lived in Grant County your entire life or came yesterday the mining industry has been a fundamental source of our heritage, our economy and hopefully our future. I make no apologies that my family and I have benefited from the mining industry in the past, the present and hopefully the future.

I consider myself an environmentalist of circumstance having been raised on a ranch near here and having to use the resources of water and land in a sustainable and economically beneficial manner, striking a balance between; never using the resources, and over using and depleting the resources. I was taught this by my father who worked for Pacific Western Land Company a wholly owned subsidiary of Phelps Dodge, this again is not an apology more so a point of honor for me.

Of course the mining industry did not always get it right, much of the time in the early days due to ignorance and/or lack of proper guidelines. We have seen great improvement, especially in recent times with the handling of the byproducts produced from the operations of the mines, the Proposed Copper Rules continue this progress with proper balance.

I would ask our State and Local leaders and as many as I can prevail upon to support the Proposed Copper Rules in their current form allowing our largest private employer and provider of economic based jobs to continue operations with clear and consistent rules.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak today