Flathead Basin Commission

655 Timberwolf Parkway
Kalispell, Montana 59901
406.897.2598

Chas Cartwright
Chair

July 8, 2014

Re: Columbia Falls Aluminum Company (CFAC) Site Remediation

Dear Governor Bullock:

It was a pleasure to meet with you on June 4, 2014 to discuss the mission of the Flathead Basin Commission (FBC), and some of the most critical issues facing our watershed.

As you know, based on the preliminary site assessment undertaken by the EPA, the pollution present at the CFAC site renders it eligible for the National Priority List (NPL). The benefits of EPA NPL listing includes greater availability of funding for site assessment and remediation, and the threat of treble damages in the event that the Primary Responsible Parties (PRPs) refuses to contribute to the clean-up efforts. The FBC unequivocally supports the NPL listing, and it is our hope that you will also support this effort with a formal request for listing to the EPA.

The City of Columbia Falls, and its residents, unanimously agreed that site remediation is of the highest import. The potentially adverse impacts to human health and environmental quality, due to the current levels of contamination in surface waters, groundwater and soils, is of grave concern. In addition, the reuse and economic development opportunities that will accrue to the community and the State can only be achieved by undertaking comprehensive remediation efforts. NPL listing would guarantee remediation, whether or not the PRPs opt to voluntarily cooperate.

We greatly appreciate your assistance and support.

Sincerely,

Chas Cartwright

Chas Cartwright

cc: Senator J. Tester
Senator J. Walsh
Representative S. Daines
T. Stone-Manning, DEQ
J. Dalsoglio, EPA
P. Holmquist, Flathead County Commissioner
S. Nicosia, City of Columbia Falls