

From: [George Schweigert](#)
To: [Amy Rusko](#)
Subject: Petition to NOT have Galvanized processing plant located in Alington WA
Date: Tuesday, June 25, 2024 9:58:55 AM

This message is from an External Sender

This message came from outside the City of Arlington

Hi Amy,

My name is George Schweigert and I'm very concerned in light of the information that was posted on Facebook regarding the new proposed Galvanized processing plant and surrounding townships, I hereby petition against the establishment of a Hot Dipped Galvanizing Processing Plant near Glen Eagle. This proposal poses significant risks to the environment, public health, and the well-being of our community.

Potential Impacts on Surrounding Townships:

- 1. Environmental Concerns:** Hot dipped galvanizing involves the use of zinc and other chemicals, which can lead to contamination of air, soil, and water sources. This can adversely affect local ecosystems, including nearby rivers and wildlife habitats.
- 2. Air Quality:** The process of galvanizing releases particulate matter and potentially harmful gases such as zinc oxide, which can contribute to air pollution. This pollution may lead to respiratory problems and other health issues among residents in the vicinity.
- 3. Water Contamination:** Zinc runoff from galvanizing plants can contaminate groundwater and surface water bodies, posing risks to drinking water sources and aquatic life. This can have long-term consequences for both human health and the environment.
- 4. Noise and Traffic:** Operational activities of the plant, including transportation of materials and machinery operation, could significantly increase noise levels and traffic in the area, disrupting the peace and safety of local neighborhoods.

Impacts on Humans Exposed in the Surrounding Area:

- 1. Health Risks:** Residents living near galvanizing plants may face increased risks of respiratory ailments, cardiovascular diseases, and other health problems due to exposure to pollutants emitted during the galvanizing process.
- 2. Long-term Exposure:** Continuous exposure to airborne pollutants such as zinc compounds can lead to chronic health issues, including lung diseases and neurological disorders, especially among vulnerable populations such as children and the elderly.
- 3. Quality of Life:** The presence of a galvanizing plant near residential areas can diminish the quality of life for residents, affecting property values, recreational opportunities, and overall community well-being.

Similar Cases of Adverse Consequences:

- 1. Spokane, WA:** A galvanizing plant in Spokane faced community opposition due to concerns over air pollution and health risks. Studies showed increased respiratory illnesses among residents living nearby.
- 2. New Jersey:** Residents near a galvanizing plant reported elevated levels of heavy metals in their soil and water, leading to health advisories and remediation efforts to mitigate contamination.

3. **Ohio:** A galvanizing plant in Ohio was found responsible for contaminating groundwater with zinc, prompting legal actions and environmental cleanup efforts that impacted nearby communities.

In light of these documented cases and the potential adverse impacts on our community, we urge the City Council to reject the proposal to establish a Hot Dipped Galvanizing Processing Plant near Glen Eagle in Arlington, WA. Instead, we call for sustainable development practices that prioritize the health, safety, and environmental well-being of our residents.

Sincerely,

George Schweigert
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