

## Chris Taggart

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**From:** Julie Fillingham <mtredneckrealtor@aol.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 5, 2021 11:36 AM  
**To:** Ravalli County Commissioners Office; sandyc@montana.com; lasilks@gmail.com; daveforgatch@gmail.com; jgranch64@gmail.com; cindystifel@gmail.com; imacolormecowboy@yahoo.com; accurateoutfitters@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Middle Bear Creek Neighbors / Intermountain Industrial

We had emailed last year about the concerns in our area with Intermountain Industrial moving into the neighborhood. Covid hit and nobody pursued anything. Many of the neighbors in our area are willing to participate in a voluntary zoning district to prevent other businesses like Intermountain Industrial from coming in and to make sure that they do not become any worse than they already are. I write this to you as I listen to them clanging and banging and driving fork lifts out my front door.

You cannot imagine what we, in this neighborhood must endure with them here. We know we cannot make them leave but they should have some restrictions and not be able to expand or become any worse. They said they are not noisy, they said they are not looking to expand, they said they only work 4 days a week. So many lies. We live here and this is our homes that they have destroyed. Their full size semi trucks loaded with steel running up and down these roads and sometimes running stop signs and speeding down bear creek, are dangerous and tearing up the roads. They are crushing culverts with the weight of their trucks and should never have had to travel these type of roads carrying heavy steel.

Intermountain Industrial never should have moved into a residential neighborhood and they will tell you that there was a business here prior to them but it was nothing like them. They have changed the entire landscape, they are dumping contaminated dirt and chemicals which DEQ tried to turn a blind eye to and listen to their lie of it being rain water. Why do we have to be the ones who feel like the bad guy for saying something. We did not do this. They did. They moved here and destroyed it and we should just keep our mouth shut and take it. Bull crap!!! We have rights too and are about sick and tired of feeling like we are the horrible people saying something. No, Intermountain Industrial lied to everybody and continue to do so. We are the ones who live here. Many of my neighbors are retired and cannot afford to move and suffer through the dust, noise and truck traffic. They suffer through the sand blasting dust that Intermountain Industrial claims is not harmful. If it is not harmful then why did they load up that dirt on a day they figured nobody would see, dump it and cover it up with fresh gravel and then after a few phone calls and somebody finally looking into things, they had to uncover, test and pay to dispose of it. If the dirt is bad then why would the dust of the sandblasting that is creating the sludge they buried, not be harmful. Why are they still sandblasting in a dirt floor canvas test?

We do not feel that it is fair to the neighborhood, the wildlife, the community and environment for Intermountain Industrial to be allowed to grow and continue to destroy the surroundings of what was once an incredibly beautiful area. The business before them was a timber frame business and worked with wood. HUGE difference. Wood is not as loud as steel and they did not have the chemicals that Intermountain Industrial does. Intermountain Industrial should be regulated and have to follow EPA guidelines and should not be allowed to add more buildings, expand or continue to wreck the area that others call home. They said under oath that they were not going to expand, they said they are not noisy and they should be held to this.

Come and sit in my front yard and spend a week seeing the different levels and degree of noise, dust and truck traffic because until you do, you cannot grasp the magnitude of this business.

A considerable number of neighbors are against this business being able to become any larger or worse than it is. We have the majority of property owners on board and wanting something done. We have a right to enjoy our properties and pay taxes as well. They go home at night and enjoy their homes and we have the same right to be able to enjoy ours. They knew they were noisy and that is why they came here. They came here because their landlord was on them about the noise. They came here because it was cheaper than the Highway properties.

The neighbors are pissed and want to know what can be done to prevent it from becoming any worse. We drafted some voluntary zoning last year and wanted to see what we could do to get something done and now that things are opened back up and life is moving on, we would like to see what we need to do to protect this area we call home. We are calling upon you for assistance in doing this. We are asking that Intermountain Industrial start taking some accountability for what they have done and continue to do to our homes.

I could go on and on but I think you can see we are frustrated, tired and a bit angry with the situation. We never should have been put in the situation of having to defend our homes and be the pesty neighbor since none of us were like that until something like this happened but we cannot sit by and say nothing and allow them to do whatever they please and continue to torture people with their noise as if it is nothing. I am sure you would feel a bit of the same frustration if it was out your front door. I am sure that Mike and Cathy Cook would not sit by and be quiet about it in their neighborhood since

they have been one of the ones pushing another neighbor to clean up their property that they don't even have to look at everyday and is not noisy in the area where the Cooks live.

They should have never come here. They did not care what it would do to people and the destruction in property values. They did not care about the property owners around them and were so very selfish for bringing this horrible thing to our doorsteps.

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