

Glenda Wiles

From: bjhoy@localnet.com
Sent: Friday, June 27, 2014 4:10 PM
To: dan@rpa-hln.com
Cc: Glenda Wiles
Subject: attention Ravalli County Airport

Dear Mr. Norderud,

I am extremely opposed to a longer runway for larger jets, because the fuel in jets contains lead, which goes into the Bitterroot Valley air. Because we live in a valley, the chemicals, like lead and other pollutants go down to the valley bottom, where most of the people live. Larger jets would release more lead into the air from their exhausts, causing the citizens of Ravalli County north of Hamilton to be exposed to high levels of lead. The wind usually blows from the south or south west. Children especially are very susceptible to lead exposure as are developing fetuses. We already have a very high prevalence of birth defects in Ravalli County in both human babies and in wildlife, especially birds and mammals. Adding more lead to the environment here will not help mitigate the birth defects. It will likely make them worse.

Therefore, I would like to state that my husband and I are in favor of keeping the runway at the current length of 4200 feet and having large jets land in Missoula. This will also protect the wildlife that live in the area where the Ravalli County airport is. The Missoula airport is much safer for large jets, because the Missoula airport is not so close to a riparian area and wetlands, where large numbers of geese, eagles, herons and other large birds live, like the Ravalli County Airport is.

Thank you for considering our views on this issue.

Sincerely,
Judy and Bob Hoy