From: Representative Scott Bedke

To: FS-comments-intermtn-payette

Subject: Letter of support for Midas Gold Idaho

Date: Friday, July 14, 2017 11:38:21 AM

Attachments: letter.of.support.MidasGold.7.14.17.pdf

See attached letter of support. Thank you for your consideration.

Scott Bedke Speaker of the House

Idaho House of Representatives 700 West Jefferson St, Room E303 PO Box 83720 Boise, ID 83720-0038 (208) 332-1111 SCOTT C. BEDKE

DISTRICT 27
CASSIA & MINIDOKA COUNTIES



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House of Representatives State of Idaho

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE

July 14, 2017

Payette National Forest ATTN: Forest Supervisor Keith Lannom Stibnite Gold EIS 500 N. Mission St. McCall, ID 83638 via electronic mail

Dear Mr. Lannom:

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to submit comments on Midas Gold Idaho's Plan of Restoration and Operations as the preferred alternative during the EIS process.

Though the mine is not in my legislative district, Midas' impact will be felt statewide. Midas plans to invest roughly \$1 billion in Idaho. It is estimated that they will contribute \$86 million in state and local taxes and invest hundreds of thousands of dollars to upgrade community infrastructure like roads and power lines. The project will provide approximately 1,000 jobs at the site throughout the length of the project. It is estimated that for every 500 jobs Midas creates, another 400 will be created in the community.

Midas Gold Idaho believes in a local workforce and has promised to hire Idahoans whenever possible. The company will provide employees with training and help our state build a more skilled workforce. These jobs are not entry level positions. In fact, Midas Gold estimates salaries will be two times higher than the local average in Valley County. This can make a big difference in the life of many families.

Please help move this project forward, as it is important for the citizens of our great state.

Sincerely,

Scott Bedke

Speaker of the House

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