

From: Senator Brent Hill
To: [FS-comments-intermtn-payette](#)
Subject: Comments on Stibnite Gold EIS
Date: Wednesday, July 19, 2017 3:48:40 PM

Brent Hill
President Pro Tempore
Idaho State Senate

Payette National Forest

ATTN: Forest Supervisor Keith Lannom

500 N. Mission St.

McCall, ID 83638

Dear Mr. Lannom,

Midas Gold Idaho has been a member of the Idaho community for the past eight years. During this time, the company and its employees have become wonderful champions and supporters of Valley County and all of Idaho. They have volunteered their time in our schools and given generously to community causes. The company's track record of following through on its promises and doing the right thing gives me the confidence to write in support of adopting the proposed activities outlined in the Plan of Restoration and Operations as the preferred alternative during the EIS process.

The old Stibnite mine site is in our backyard and it will likely never be cleaned up unless industry takes responsibility for those who came before them. Midas Gold plans to do just that. By mining the site, Midas Gold plans to restore the natural flow and gradient of the East Fork of the South Fork to reconnect historical spawning grounds. The company will repair blowout creek, permanently solving a source of massive sedimentation and habitat degradation. Plus, in reprocessing and repurposing millions of tons of spent ore and unconstrained tailings, Midas will safeguard water quality indefinitely.

Along with the environmental benefit, the mine will be a major economic boost for all of Idaho. My understanding is that Midas Gold will invest \$1 billion, pay roughly \$86 million in new state and local taxes, have a payroll expected to exceed \$34 million and create roughly 1,000 new jobs over the life of the mine.

The economic and environmental impacts alone make this project important to Valley County residents and to the rest of us in Idaho. For these reasons and many more, please help move this project forward and adopt Midas Gold's preferred plan.

Brent Hill

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