

From: Kelly Felton
To: [FS-comments-intermtn-payette](#)
Subject: Stibnite Gold Project
Date: Thursday, July 20, 2017 9:09:30 PM
Importance: High

Dear Mr. Lannom,

I moved to Cascade from Denver 20 years ago this October. I had a good telecommuting job then but was laid off about 6 years ago. There are very few job opportunities in Cascade or Valley County as a whole that offer stability and benefits. Midas Gold's plan is to look locally to fill the jobs, then regionally for people with specific qualifications for remaining open positions, then nationally. We need companies like Midas that offer good job opportunities!

Midas Gold also has the integrity it will take to accomplish their goals, and has invested the money and time to give the public access to their plans via meetings, presentations and tours. Belinda Provancher has made a commitment to Midas Gold as well as the local communities, as a representative of Midas, to make sure communication is two-way. Midas has sponsored many endeavors that have benefitted Valley County locals (replanting trees with school youth, baseball fields in McCall, etc.) and deserves our support in return.

Our communities need the tax revenue that Midas can provide. We've lost most of the funding that logging provided to our schools. A recreation-based economy like we now have is not dependable. It's seasonal and unreliable because it's based on discretionary income and the weather. The aphorism "a rising tide lifts all boats," with Midas Gold being the tide, provides an accurate picture of the affect that Midas Gold could have on our local economy. Currently our local chambers are more focused on tourism, which does NOT serve our local businesses and population equally. Midas Gold can provide the hand-up – not the handout – that those of the working class need to lift themselves by their own bootstraps to a place of higher income and economic stability.

As small business owners, my husband and I understand the need to make a living AND to be good stewards of our natural resources. We took the Midas tour and were impressed with the knowledge of the presenters and the openness to answer questions and provide as much information as was possible about the entire Stibnite Gold Project Plan. We love living close to nature, and we think that the employees and board of Midas Gold must too as their plans to restore the site are more impressive than anyone here could hope. Midas staff don't just listen, they actually welcome suggestions.

Midas Gold has my endorsement as a company of good stewards and community members/leaders. We want to see Midas Gold move forward with all of their plans without delay.

Kelly Jo Rutherford-Felton

Press in the Pines (and Take-A-Look)

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