

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the Stibnite Gold Project as part of Midas Gold Idaho's Draft Environmental Impact Statement. I appreciate the opportunity to share my thoughts.

I do not live in Idaho, yet I have been following this project for several years and I believe it to be a very important project in terms of the national interests of the United States.

Yes, the project will bring huge economic benefits to the rural communities surrounding the project site. Midas Gold will directly employ 400-500 employees during construction and operations. And yes, Midas wants to restore the rivers, wildlife and habitat near the Stibnite Gold Project site.

However, I believe there is an issue of equal or greater importance to the ones listed above.....and that is antimony. Antimony is a crucial element needed for flame retardants, semiconductors, and several VERY important military applications; among many other applications. Currently, over 75% of the world's supply of antimony is from China. And given the U.S.'s current 'cold war' with China, I believe that we cannot afford to be "held hostage" by China should our relationship with China continue to deteriorate.

As we have discovered over the last 6 months due to Covid-19, it is very important that supply chains be much closer to the end users rather than rely on China as the world's manufacturer. WE -- the United States -- must do whatever we can to manufacture and mine the products and raw minerals that we need.

Midas has been a very good corporate citizen and will continue to be. Given the opportunity for more jobs, a restoration of the habitat AND the important benefit of being a "local" (i.e. -- within the United States) supplier of antimony, I can see absolutely no reason NOT to allow Midas to move forward.

Thank You.

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