



## House of Representatives State of Idaho

### MAJORITY CAUCUS CHAIRMAN

U.S. Forest Service, Payette National Forest  
Attn: Linda Jackson, Payette Forest Supervisor  
500 North Mission Street  
McCall, ID 83638

Dear Ms. Jackson,

As an Idaho state representative, I am invested in finding new ways to ensure a better future for all Idahoans. That is why I am writing in support of the Stibnite Gold Project under consideration in the recently released draft Environmental Impact Statement. This project proposed by Midas Gold Idaho is an opportunity that will provide significant economic prosperity to our state. I applaud the U.S. Forest Service in their careful examination of the project to date, and encourage you to adopt Alternative 2 in order to move the project forward as soon as possible.

Having studied economics, I can recognize the significant impact this project will have on not just the communities near Stibnite, but the entire statewide economy. Midas Gold Idaho is committed to hiring upward of 1,000 people during construction and another 200 or so during shut down and reclamation. Even better is that Midas Gold Idaho is committed to looking at Idahoans first to fill these jobs which will pay in the neighborhood of \$80,000 a year – a stark contrast to what many of the service and tourism positions in Valley County currently pay.

Additionally, the tax revenues from this project will also reach every Idahoan. This project will generate more than \$150 million in state and local taxes and \$300,000 annually from property taxes alone would go toward critical public works endeavors, like our schools, first responders, and local governments.

Finally, a stronger economy with investments and activity like the Stibnite Gold Project will attract more new businesses and enable continued growth throughout the state. This is an opportunity Idaho cannot ignore.

I highly encourage you to adopt Alternative 2 outlined in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement to get this project started as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Megan C. Blanksma".

Representative Megan C. Blanksma  
House Majority Caucus Chair  
Idaho State Representative District 23B