

To Concerned Payette National Forest Staff,

I am writing to share my thoughts on Midas Gold Idaho's Stibnite Gold project. There are many reasons why I am supportive the Midas Gold's project and I hope through my comments you will understand why.

in 2020 the world was exposed to a pandemic that tragically saw large scale loss of life. This pandemic also exposed the United States over reliance on foreign countries for critical resources, including antimony. Pursuant to Executive Order 13817, on May 18, 2018 the U.S. Department of Interior's recorded into the Federal Register the final list of elements on the critical minerals list (<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2018/05/18/2018-10667/final-list-of-critical-minerals-2018> ). The list consists of minerals or mineral material groups deemed critical under the definition provided in the Executive Order. This includes antimony found at the Stibnite Gold Project.

On June 24, 2020, the US Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources Committee held a hearing to discuss ways the U.S. Government could encourage the development and production of critical minerals in the United States, like the Midas Gold Stibnite Gold project. This included fast-trackin permitting for domestic production of critical minerals.

Additionally, the COVID-19 pandemic has put an enormous financial burden on the people of the United States and some of the hardest hit areas have been smaller communities. The US Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources Committee, U.S. Department of Interior and many other Federal and State agencies have publicly committed to helping communities recover from the losses resulting from COVID-19. Approval of the Midas Gold Project is an excellent example of fulling this promise to Idahoans and the rest of America.

Furthermore, the Stibnite Gold Project will help to restore the environment. Under alternative two, Midas Gold has prioritized restoration work so many of the efforts occur early in the project. Midas Gold has planted thousands of trees and worked to reduce sediment entering waterways near the site. These actions demonstrate to me Midas Gold's commitment to mining in an environmentally sustainable way. You are fully aware that foreign countries have in some cases have little to no regard for the environment so utilizing foreign supply chains (instead of closely monitored responsible domestic production) is not supporting global environmental health.

I have outlined above three (3) significant reasons you should permit the Stibnite Gold Project in an expedited and streamlined fashion:

- 1) Fulfill the intended goals of the Executive Orders to fast-track, support and permit the domestic production of critical minerals;

2) Fulfill the promise to the American people to promote business recovery from the damaging COVID-19 pandemic; and

3) Tangibly demonstrate your commitment to the global environment by approving this project and the company that wants to responsibly and sustainably produce critical minerals.

Please approve the Stibnite Gold Project.

Kind regards,

Mr. Tracy Sizemore

Name: Mr. Tracy Sizemore