

U.S.F.S. Officials,

I am a mining engineer in Pennsylvania, though I have worked in Colorado as well, and an avid hiker, biker and kayaker. I enjoy clean water and natural environments as much as anyone and am writing in support of the Stibnite Mine project. I stumbled across this project at a recent industry conference and was impressed by the company's plan to create jobs while supplying an important natural resource and at the same time help solve the issues of legacy pre-modern era mining.

As you are no doubt aware, mining has an unfortunate reputation in cultural and outdoors circles due the practices that were implemented from the 1800's through the 1960's. While these practices haven't been used in decades, they still stain mining's image. Having experience in what re-mining legacy sites can do to improve the environment, this project excites me. A somewhat similar project is occurring in Pennsylvania, where the St Michaels water treatment facility has drastically improved the water quality in the Conemaugh River watershed while allowing the mining of metallurgical grade coal and the employment of dozens of miners.

[https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2016-09/documents/pa\\_progress\\_-\\_long\\_time\\_acid\\_mine\\_drainage\\_halted\\_-\\_20150903.pdf](https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2016-09/documents/pa_progress_-_long_time_acid_mine_drainage_halted_-_20150903.pdf)

I feel that this project will be another win-win which helps the area through the creation of good, high paying jobs while also cleaning the water and improving recreational options.

I hope the USFS approves this project, I would have no qualms with it occurring in my area and think it is in the best interests of responsible forest and watershed management to see it move forwards.

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