



## House of Representatives State of Idaho

September 30, 2020

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 Idahoan and a member of the state Legislature, I am writing to express my support for the Stibnite Gold Project proposed by Midas Gold Idaho. The U.S. Forest Service has released its draft Environmental Impact Statement for Midas Gold Idaho's Stibnite Gold Project for public consideration and I am writing to express my support. Midas Gold has proven they are passionate about engaging in Idaho's communities and giving back to Idahoans, not just mining resources for a profit.

Midas Gold has proven their dedication to Idaho's communities through the signing of a community agreement. This agreement gives the local communities a voice in the Stibnite Gold Project, especially in conversations about transportation needs, workforce development, safety and economic impacts. The community agreement created a Stibnite Advisory Council with all communities who signed on. This council will meet regularly to receive updates from Midas Gold and voice any concerns they may have over the Stibnite Gold Project.

This agreement also noted that the Stibnite Foundation will support projects benefiting communities surrounding the project. An example of this is Midas Gold's tree planting initiative. For the past few years the company has partnered with school districts and community groups, donating monetarily to their organization for every tree they help Midas Gold plant.

The Stibnite Gold Project would nearly \$10 million in state tax revenue during construction and operations. Schools, law enforcement, and local governments would receive hundreds of thousands of dollars annually through property tax revenue.

Midas Gold is invested in bettering local Idaho communities through the Stibnite Gold Project. After careful consideration, I would like to request that the U.S. Forest Service to accept Alternative 2 proposed by Midas Gold Idaho.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rep Chris Abernathy 29A".

Chris Abernathy  
Idaho State Representatives  
District 29 A