

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

Payette Forest Supervisor Jackson:

I would very much like to add my comment to the open docket at the U.S. Forest Service concerning the proposed new development at the Stibnite mine. I believe this project would be a huge leap forward for the area, and that Midas Gold is fully capable of bringing their vision of a 21st century mining project to life.

I can understand a certain amount of hesitation from locals when it comes to letting another mining company in the area. After all, it's no secret that this site has seen its fair share of environmental damage caused by previous mining projects. However, the Stibnite Gold Project proposed by Midas Gold in Alternative 2 of their plans would be different than any other mining operation before it.

That's because mining projects today are subject to a whole slew of environmental rules and regulations that did not apply to the operations that existed in generations past. Per the National Environmental Protection Act, Midas Gold has been working with local and state regulators every step of the way to ensure full compliance with all applicable regulations.

Another key difference between the Stibnite Gold Project and past mining activities at this site is the fact that this project comes with financial assurance. Before any construction even begins, Midas Gold will set aside all the funds necessary to completely restore the site.

This is something that is even cited in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement in chapter 2, which states that financial assurance would provide adequate funding to allow the Forest Service to complete reclamation and post closure operation. With this money designated to return the site to an acceptable state, there's simply no reason to believe that any of the past mistakes that previous mining operations created will be repeated this time.

Let's keep the ball moving and get the Stibnite Gold Project underway ASAP. Please approve Alternative 2 to make sure we can do so.

Best,

Rikki Godfrey

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