

Senator Lori Den Hartog
DISTRICT 22
Ada County



HOME ADDRESS
P.O. Box 267
Meridian, Idaho 83680

Idaho State Senate

State Capitol
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, Idaho 83720-0081

October 7, 2020

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

Dear Ms. Jackson:

Born into a family of entrepreneurs and self-starters, I believe having a culture that fosters ingenuity and solutions is essential to a successful community. For that reason, I am encouraged by Midas Gold Idaho's commitment to engaging our communities and looking to Idahoans first when in need of employees and materials for its proposed Stibnite Gold project. I write you today to voice my support for this important proposal and urge the U.S. Forest Service to adopt Alternative 2 as laid out in the draft environmental impact statement.

Midas is also committed to hiring locally and supporting training opportunities for Idahoans by working directly with schools at all levels and the Idaho Department of Labor. Furthermore, critical public focused areas, including our schools and law enforcement, would realize more than \$300,000 a year annually from this project. Such investments have the potential to provide Idaho's next generation with innovative opportunities and a vibrant future.

The Stibnite Gold Project, as proposed by Midas Gold Idaho, is demonstrative of the interest the company has in our state. An independent study conducted by Highland Economics found that during construction alone, the direct impacts on the local economy would be over \$18 million a year in taxes, wages and ancillary benefits.

I urge the U.S. Forest Service to allow Midas Gold to move forward in the permitting process by adopting Alternative 2 so Idahoans can take advantage of this comprehensive investment in our communities and citizenry.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lori Den Hartog".

Senator Lori Den Hartog