

Dear Ms. Linda Jackson,

Mining is one of the few occupations that actually CREATE wealth (farming, commercial fishing, oil and gas, lumbering are the others). Mining provides good paying jobs all across the personnel spectrum. Many single moms work in the mining industry these days doing work that was historically male dominated. The Stibnite mine project of Midas Gold Idaho will provide badly needed jobs, increase the tax base and actually improve the environment in this specific region. Lead times for bringing a mineral deposit into actual production are exceedingly long and often frivolous delay tactics lead to abandonment of an entire project with attendant opportunity loss. It is important to approve the Midas project Alternative 2 quickly so as to remedy the mine tailings legacy as soon as possible and begin to realize the people benefits of this project. Delays associated with the other Alternatives could actually jeopardize all that has been done to date by this bona fide, well-managed company . I have seen the exodus of mining companies from our great country to foreign shores because of these ever lengthening lead times. We need and want to keep our jobs here. Midas Gold has been developing plans for several years and finally the opportunity now exists to realize the positive benefits of the Stibnite mine for decades to come in Idaho .

Please move forward with priority and permit the mine using alternative 2, so Midas Gold can put more Americans to work.

Thank you and best regards, Joe Maher

Name: Joseph M. Maher