## **Double Eagle, LLC**

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

Dear Ms. Jackson:

As the owner and Chief Principal Officer – President, of the Double Eagle of Donnelly, Idaho we (the personnel of Double Eagle) want you to know we emphatically support Midas Gold and its initiative to ethically mine the Stibnite Gold Project. We ask you approve Midas' application to mine at Stibnite.

We strongly support the Stibnite Gold Project and Midas Gold's efforts to ethically and safely mine for gold and antimony. We have strong conservational, ecological, and environmental foundations. Businesses cannot survive if the focus is to only take and not give back. We must restore Stibnite to ensure other businesses in Valley County will have a population base to stay healthy. This area is our living area and we all recreate here – we want it to be pristine. Midas will ensure the area is cleaned up now and restored after they mine.

It is important to us that the land in our area remain clean and accessible to all. We know that Midas Gold is already trying to clean up the old mining area in and around Stibnite. No one, not the Federal government or the ecological groups that formed to stop Midas Gold from mining, is doing anything to clean up the mess in Stibnite – no one except Midas Gold. Midas Gold already has a proven track record yet there are efforts to stymie them at every turn – Midas is cleaning the area now!

## We strongly support Alternative 2:

We believe it is the lowest overall risk, impacts the environment the least, and identifies the best transportation alternative that has no major fish bearing waterways impact. We strongly believe that Alternative 5 is not a real option since its foundation is to do nothing – we cannot do nothing we must clean up the ugly ecological and environmental conditions at Stibnite.

We support Midas Gold's efforts to mine at Stibnite for multiple reasons but these two are our primary reasons to support Midas Gold: ecological, conservational, and environmental; and economic:

## **Ecological, Conservational and Environmental Issues:**

The previous mining companies failed to restore the site when they finished; each left the site in a worse condition. Currently there is a mess and it is shameful that the Federal government and anti-Midas environmental groups are doing nothing or very little. Midas' actions to clean up the area and to further process any tailings they produce will reduce arsenic levels, a known toxin that exists now. This will make the water cleaner for the South Fork Salmon. Midas will build fish tunnels that will allow the South Fork Salmon clean and protected access to their natural spawning areas. This will greatly improve and restore the salmon population. Finally, the current bonding laws will periodically review the bonding and project to determine if a larger bond is required. This will ensure Stibnite is cleaned up and restored.

## **Economic Impact:**

Today the average income for workers in this area is just under \$40,000. Midas will pay their employees a wage and benefit package of approximately \$80,000 per year. Benefits are rare for the majority of Valley County workers. Midas projects to bring 1,000 well-paying jobs over the life of the project. It is estimated an additional 1,000 jobs will be created to support Midas, the workforce, and others in the area. In addition to jobs, it is estimated Midas will pay \$329 million in Federal taxes, \$86 million in State taxes and licensing as well as increased payments to the local tax base. As a business owner we believe this point is of great benefit for the residents and other business in Valley County.

Midas Gold has been a reliable, ethical, and fair partner with our communities. They are already cleaning the Stibnite mining area. They support our communities and our projects. Some claim Midas' actions are bribery. This cannot be further from the truth. Their position is proof they care and are vested in our communities. They took a progressive approach by creating the Stibnite Advisory Council and Stibnite Foundation because they want all the people to get information about the project. These are model initiatives that every large employer should initiate as they engage with their communities.

We emphatically support the Stibnite Midas Gold Project and ask you approve their permit. They are cleaning Stibnite now!!!

Respectfully,

Cecilia K. Tyler,

President and CEO, Double Eagle LLC,

Donnelly, Idaho