

U.S. Forest Service, Payette National Forest
500 North Mission Street
McCall, ID 83638

Dear Supervisor:

Valley County, Idaho, and the surrounding communities, are rural. During a crisis like the one we find ourselves in, it is incredibly important to support our local, rural economy. That is why I am writing to encourage you to select the Alternative 2 proposal, from Midas Gold, to clean up the Stibnite mining site and benefit our economy and environment.

This is the best proposal for our communities. Alternative 2 promises to create a ton of local jobs. Midas predicts that it will employ 600-700 people during the construction phase and another 500-600 during operations of the mine. Furthermore, Midas also predicts that there will be hundreds of indirect jobs during both phases, especially through the supply chain. They have committed to purchasing supplies locally as much as possible and have already spent millions in Idaho to date. I am excited about the opportunities for families in my community to return to work with a project like this.

Cleaning up the mine is expensive. But there is no one else proposing to do the work on the scale of Midas Gold. If Midas doesn't move forward with Alternative 2, this burden will fall to us as taxpayers – or more likely, the site may never get cleaned up at all. Alternative 2 proposes the safest option to clean up the site in such a way that boosts our economy and gets our residents back to work.

With Respect,

① *Angela Haskell* Angela Haskell

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