

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

The reason I am writing today is simple: to urge you to support the Stibnite Gold Project by accepting Alternative 2 as outlined by Midas Gold and examined by the U.S. Forest Service's draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Please add my comment to the open docket for this proposal.

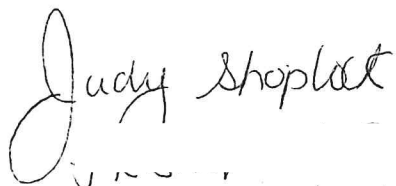
Alternative Two is quite simply the most technically and economically feasible of the different options explored by the draft EIS. Whereas Alternatives 3 and 4 would incur lengthy delays that would slow down this project, Alternative 2 would allow for work to begin almost immediately, meaning local communities, workers, economies, as well as the environment would all benefit sooner under Alternative Two.

Moving forward with Alternative 2 also provides our community and country with the necessary minerals needed in our defense technologies. Being a veteran myself, I understand the importance of how proper and well-crafted equipment can be the difference in life and death for our servicemen and women in our armed forces. Antimony is a crucial mineral in achieving this and we must prioritize its domestic production via the SGP.

If this project does not move forward, Idahoans will not feel the economic benefits tied to the job creation and supply chain activity that would occur as a result of the new mining activities. However, the biggest loser in not approving the Stibnite Gold Project would be the local ecosystem, which would simply continue to degrade unless action is taking. That includes worsening water quality, continued suffering for local fish and wildlife, and the continuing degradation of soils, due to erosion and other factors.

It is for all these reasons, I urge you to approve Alternative 2 recommended by Midas Gold Idaho.

With gratitude,


Judy Shoplock