

Dear Payette National Forest Staff,

This letter is to express my support of Midas Gold's Stibnite Gold Project. America needs this project to be permitted. I hope after reading my thoughts you will understand why my support for Midas Gold Idaho is so strong.

The team at Midas has spent countless hours researching and designing the best possible solution for water quality conditions at the site. By cleaning up the legacy tailings that are currently sitting unlined on the valley floor, Midas will improve the water quality for fish, wildlife, and nearby residents. Alternative 2 includes a plan to neutralize the metals in the tailings before they are stored in the fully lined facility. This will greatly improve ground and surface water conditions at the site and be a big step forward to improving the environmental conditions at the site. I prefer Alternative 2 because it will bring solutions to the site in the most timely manner. Alternative 3 and 4 would delay these benefits by two years and, sadly, Alternative 5 would leave the site as it is today and conditions would likely only get worse.

Midas Gold Idaho has proactively engaged community members and consistently sought local feedback. Some suggestions from locals are reflected in the plan – including the proposed road to the site to keep traffic and potential pollutants away from waterways. In my mind, actions speak louder than words and Midas Gold has proven they will be a good partner moving forward.

For the reasons I stated in my letter above, please permit the Stibnite Gold Project using Alternative 2 and let Idahoans see the benefits of this important project.

Thanks for your Consideration,

Name: Ed Layton