

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

Dear Ms. Jackson:

Mining is a central part of our state's history. As a resident of this community, I understand how important these projects are for our economy and livelihood. However, I am eager to see the Stibnite mine site cleaned up before future operations move too far along. I am writing to express my support for Midas Gold's Alternative 2, which will do just that.

One issue confronting the Stibnite district is the amount of mining waste and tailings that were released into the environment by previous mining projects. Midas discovered that Meadow Creek, a tributary of the East Fork of the South Fork of the Salmon River, runs through million of tons of ore that are leftover from old projects. Alternative 2 is cleaning up this mess by reprocessing and storing the waste to prevent future damage to the water and air. In doing so, I know that Midas will help to ensure that our rivers and waters stay clean for years to come.

Another issue surrounding projects at the Stibnite site is the sediment build up in the watershed of the river. After a dam collapsed in 1965, even more sediment entered the river. The sediment makes it impossible for fish to breathe through their gills. Alternative 2 proposes a drain underneath that failed dam to prevent additional sediment from building up. This will also increase the water levels in nearby wetlands. Although this project is outside of the Stibnite site footprint, Midas has not limited their clean up to one site only.

For the last few years, Midas Gold has been working in my community to develop the safest and most sustainable proposal to begin operations at the Stibnite site. I trust that Alternative 2 is the safest proposal to date and think it is our best option to move forward.

Thank You,



LARRY MORTON