

Linda Jackson, Payette Forest Supervisor

500 North Mission Street

McCall, ID 83638

Dear Supervisor Jackson:

I am commenting on the Stibnite Gold Project as a concerned and supportive Western resident. I am a geologist and environmental professional with extensive project experience in mine permitting and compliance projects throughout the West, including Idaho. My professional career has been ongoing for 48 years and has included over 30 years in the environmental consulting industry primarily serving the western mining industry, and over a decade working as an exploration and mining geologist for both base and precious metal deposits.

The Stibnite Gold Project is ambitious and its focus on restoration of parts of the project area seriously impacted by past mining activity is commendable. At the same time, the project is unique in terms of the commodities targeted for production (gold, silver and antimony) and the relatively complex mineralogical and hydrogeological conditions in the project area.

As the project advances, more information on mineralization, geologic structures, hydrogeology, ground water chemistry, and leachate/infiltrate geochemistry will undoubtedly be collected. I trust that the project proponent, coordinating with the Service and the State of Idaho, will compile and assess this data after which the potential effects on the ground water and surface water quality will be further evaluated as appropriate. I presume that impacts to ground water and surface water quality from the following will be subject to ongoing evaluation: infiltration of leachate and runoff from ore and waste rock storage; observed or predictable impacts from tailings management and storage; the effects on groundwater quality and quantity from rapid infiltration basins as designs are completed and their impacts assessed; and the effects of water discharge from surface and underground mine dewatering. I also presume that project operations would be modified as appropriate to address any subsequently identified impacts.

I presume this ongoing assessment is to be performed by competent, appropriately licensed and certified experts whose work would be peer reviewed, by similarly qualified experts.

Assuming such an ongoing approach to assessing the project's effects is in fact the intended approach to advancement of the project, I believe the project should be allowed to proceed.

Sincerely,

Robert J. Bayer, P.G., RM SME (#00189300)

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