

I appreciate the opportunity to share my thoughts on the SDEIS. This project is important to me because it can provide America with a domestically mined source of antimony and restore an abandoned mine site while also making much needed environmental improvements to the area. Perhaps more importantly, it will breathe economic growth back to the local economy and Idaho in general.

I support the 2021 Modified Mine Plan of the SDEIS. Under this plan, Perpetua Resources will help mitigate the damages left by previous mining projects, bring hundreds of well-paying jobs to Valley County and provide the only domestically mined source of antimony in the country. This project would allow our nation to rely less on foreign countries for critical minerals and reduce our carbon footprint by sourcing minerals at home. Environmental regulations are stricter in the United States and when minerals are sourced in this country we do not have to expend as much energy and resources transporting them to their final destination. The 2021 Modified Mine Plan is economically and technically feasible. It also improves upon the company's originally submitted plans. With the new updates, Perpetua has eliminated the need for long-term water treatment, kept water temperatures on site at or below current temperatures, improves water quality and shrinks the size of the project footprint by 13 percent. It is clear it is the best choice moving forward.

This project is a huge opportunity for Idaho. After 6 years of intense review, I encourage the U.S. Forest Service to permit the 2021 Modified Mine Plan so this brownfield site can finally be restored.

Gregory D Aydt