

I am writing to share my thoughts on Perpetua Resources' Stibnite Gold project. There are many reasons why I am excited for Perpetua's project to come to life. It would provide America with our only mined supply of antimony, a mineral critical to our national defense and energy sectors. I hope through my comments you will understand why I want to see this project move forward.

One of the top reasons why I support Perpetua Resources' plans is because it will secure an American source of antimony. The federal government deemed antimony a critical mineral because of its use in the energy and national defense industries. Today, there is no domestic source of this mineral. Most of it comes from China or Russia, which makes our country vulnerable. America's military depend on antimony to protect our country and stay safe. The mineral is used in munitions, military clothing, night vision goggles, infrared sensors and more. It is irresponsible to continue relying on our adversaries to provide us with antimony. I have reviewed the plan and believe the Burntlog option will allow the company to mine safely, minimize the impacts to the environment and help protect our national security.

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.

Mario Salas