

I am proud to submit my comments in support of Perpetua Resources' Stibnite Gold Project. This project presents our state with an incredible opportunity to bring well-paying jobs to rural Idaho, boost our state's economy and provide our nation with the much-needed critical mineral antimony. Today, America relies on China and Russia to provide us with antimony. The Stibnite Gold Project could help us secure a domestic source of antimony.

I understand that in order for Perpetua Resources' Stibnite Gold project to move forward, the company must meet strict state and federal regulations. This gives me faith in the project and process. In addition to a positive record of decision through the NEPA process, Perpetua Resources will still need to obtain up to 50 other permits, approvals and conditions ranging from the Clean Water Act to providing financial assurances for restoration. The Forest Service cannot approve the project without ascertaining that all of these approvals are issued and conditions met. I support Perpetua Resources' plans to restore the site, bring hundreds of jobs to rural Idaho and mine gold and antimony as outlined under the 2021 Modified Mine Plan. I am appreciative of the additional work the company has done to limit its project footprint, improve water temperatures on the site and eliminate long-term water treatment.

For the above reasons and many more, please move forward with the 2021 Modified Mine Plan for the Stibnite Gold Project as it is important to all Idahoans. After more than 12 years of scientific analysis by the company and six years of regulatory review that the project, we should not have to wait much longer to recognize the project's benefits.

Randy Smith