

Thank you for the opportunity to comment during the Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement period for the Stibnite Gold Project. This project could help stop our import reliance on China and Russia for antimony and improve environmental conditions at an abandoned mine site. It is important to me to see this project move forward.

Given the history of the region, I was a bit skeptical when I first heard about this project, but it is clear that Perpetua is going out of their way to put environmental safety and restoration front and center. Especially with the improvements the company made in its 2021 Modified Mine Plan. For example, in the SDEIS the company eliminated the Fiddle Rock Development Storage facility, which resulted in a 168-acre reduction in the project footprint. They also made improvements to water quality, so no long-term water treatment will be necessary after mining is complete. After looking at the tools provided by the USFS, I feel strongly that the Modified Mine Plan is the best option moving forward. It addresses the purpose and need of the agencies in a manner that provides environmental advantage and economic feasibility over the other analyzed alternatives. With so much promise for the site's future, I hope the consideration of no action is removed from the table. There is finally an opportunity to restore the site and help secure America's source of antimony, a designated critical mineral.

Reviewing Perpetua Resources' improved plans it is clear to me the company really believes in taking care of the environment and keeping the community safe. That is why they reduced water temperatures, improved water quality and shrunk the project footprint by 13 percent. I urge you to trust in your own review process and permit the Stibnite Gold Project.

Robert Cafera