

I have been closely following Perpetua Resources' plans for several years. The Stibnite Gold Project presents an opportunity to restore an abandoned mine site and provide our nation with the critical minerals we need. I am grateful for the opportunity to comment on their SDEIS.

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.

Perpetua Resources wants to invest \$1 billion in our state, bring more than 1,000 jobs to rural Idaho and still provide access to Idaho's public lands. This is the type of project our state needs. After reviewing the project for six years, I highly encourage the U.S. Forest Service to move the project forward with the improvements laid out in the SDEIS.

Herschell Brown