

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.

There are many checks and balances in place to ensure Perpetua Resources follows through on its promises to restore the site. In fact, the company is required by law to set aside all of the money it needs for restoration before mining can begin. However, I am not worried about Perpetua staying true to its word. The company has already started restoration work at the site. They have planted more than 60,000 trees to help reduce the amount of sediment going into the river, installed solar energy panels at site to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improved miles of road along the river to protect fish habitat. However, what's more impressive to me is the changes the company has made following the comments they received on the DEIS. They took the feedback from stakeholders to heart and looked at ways to further improve the plan. In the 2021 Modified Mine Plan, the company has eliminated the Fiddle Development Rock Storage Facility, which shrinks the footprint by 168 acres, the size of the Hanger Flats pit was reduced by 70%, mined material was reduced by 10% and there is no longer the need for long-term water treatment. With the additional improvements, I feel strongly that the project should move forward – especially because it would allow us to secure a domestic source of antimony.

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.

Mitch Benson