

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.

I support the 2021 Modified Mine Plan of the SDEIS. Under this plan, Perpetua Resources will help mitigate the damages left by previous mining projects, bring hundreds of well-paying jobs to Valley County and provide the only domestically mined source of antimony in the country. This project would allow our nation to rely less on foreign countries for critical minerals and reduce our carbon footprint by sourcing minerals at home. Environmental regulations are stricter in the United States and when minerals are sourced in this country we do not have to expend as much energy and resources transporting them to their final destination. The 2021 Modified Mine Plan is economically and technically feasible. It also improves upon the company's originally submitted plans. With the new updates, Perpetua has eliminated the need for long-term water treatment, kept water temperatures on site at or below current temperatures, improves water quality and shrinks the size of the project footprint by 13 percent. It is clear it is the best choice moving forward.

The Stibnite Gold Project is the type of project our state needs. It has been in regulatory review for the past six years. During this time, public comments and scientific analysis has helped to improve the plan. But now it is time to move it forward. I highly encourage the U.S. Forest Service to permit this project, using the 2021 Modified Mine Plan presented by Perpetua Resources in the SDEIS, as expeditiously as possible.

Ed. Farmer sr2