

I am proud to welcome Perpetua Resources into our state and proud to support the Stibnite Gold Project. The project will produce America's only source of antimony, a mineral our national security and clean energy future depends upon, and leave the site in better condition than it is today. I hope you will take the time to consider my comments on why you should move to permit the project.

I am impressed with Perpetua Resources' current dedication to repairing legacy environmental issues at the site from mining activity that took place on and off for more than 100 years. This is a major investment. Government agencies would not have the budget to perform all the necessarily reclamation work. This private/public partnership is the right approach for Idaho and will solve environmental issues while providing the area with a significant economic boost. In reviewing the SDEIS, I am very impressed with the further improvements the company has made to its plan. They eliminated the Fiddle Development Rock Storage Facility, reduced the project footprint again, added more plantings on site to reduce water temperature and outlined additional actions to be taken to improve water quality. It is clear to me we have a path forward that will protect Idaho's environment and allow us to mine a critical mineral our nation is currently lacking.

I encourage the U.S. Forest Service to move the Stibnite Gold Project forward, especially now with the further improvements to water quality conditions on site. This is just one example of how the permitting process has worked to improve the plan.

Charles Hickman