

Perpetua Resources' Stibnite Gold Project presents Idaho, particularly rural Idaho, with a huge economic and environmental opportunity. The company has a plan to improve water quality, wetlands and the river and leave the site better than it is today. I am writing to encourage you to permit the project as quickly as possible.

The Stibnite Gold Project presents a plan to repair the environment and boost Idaho's economy, especially when using the 2021 Modified Mine Plan. Historic mining operations, development of former town site and natural processes have resulted in significant degradation of many elements of the environment. Loss of fish passage, potential water degradation from previous mining activity and excessive erosion are all of great concern to Idahoans. Right now, fish haven't swam past an abandoned mine pit for more than 80 years. Perpetua will reconnect fish passage before mining ever begins. The company will also improve water quality and temperature to further help fish. More improvements were made to these areas after the DEIS was released. Now, Perpetua Resources has identified ways to keep water temperature at or below baseline conditions. The Stibnite Gold Project would finance reclamation efforts to address these problems, boost Idaho's economy and help secure a critical mineral America needs. It is a win-win for everyone.

As the U.S. Forest Service and other state and federal agencies review the 2021 Modified Mine Plan and determine the course of action, I encourage you to consider the positive benefits Perpetua Resources will have on Idaho, especially now that the company has reduced its environmental footprint and made further improvements to water quality. This truly is a win-win opportunity for Idahoans and the environment. After years of careful scrutiny by regulators and the community, it is time for us to make these benefits a reality.

James Cates