

The Stibnite Gold Project presents a big opportunity for Idaho. Without this project, the conditions at Stibnite will likely never get better. Fish will continue to be blocked from their spawning grounds by an abandoned mine pit and legacy tailings will continue to degrade water quality. The project also presents an opportunity for America. It could help secure a domestic source of antimony, so we can stop our import reliance on this critical mineral. This is an important project and I appreciate the opportunity to provide my feedback as part of Perpetua Resources' public permitting process.

The Stibnite project is important to me because it will strengthen our national security through the production of antimony. Right now, the U.S. relies on foreign countries for this mineral. These days, I think Americans value a domestic supply chain for such important minerals more than ever. The project at Stibnite could produce over 100 million pounds of antimony and become our only domestically mined source in the entire country. Antimony is used to make electronics and batteries and is also a critical mineral for national defense and the energy industry. With the uncertainties that the Coronavirus brought to our world and current war in Ukraine, I want our country to do everything it can to protect us from the uncertainty of changing markets and trade wars. I also feel confident in the company's 2021 Modified Mine Plan. In the SDEIS, the company has managed to eliminate the need for long-term water treatment, improve water quality and shrink the size of the project footprint by 13 percent.

I appreciate your time and thoughtfulness in the review process. The U.S. Forest Service has not cut any corners over the past 6 years analyzing the project and I've appreciated the opportunities to provide feedback. For the reasons I stated in my letter above, please permit the Stibnite Gold Project.

Scott McPhail