

America desperately needs antimony. This mineral is used in munitions, large-capacity storage batteries, fire retardants and more. Currently, we are entirely dependent on foreign countries to provide this mineral, which is why I am writing in support of the Stibnite Gold Project. This project can stop our import reliance on antimony. It is far past time for the USA to ignore domestic minerals and take advantage of poorer countries resources at cut rate prices which take advantage of the poor nations and their people. You have a chance to help the USA and these other countries by opening up the permitting process to get this vital mineral for all people.

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. The permitting process is designed to advance the best plans possible. I believe the work of regulators over the past six years is proof this is what is happening with the Stibnite Gold Project. The thorough review process has been beneficial but there should be no more delays. The project should move forward in a timely manner.

Victor-Dawn Shields