

I am writing in support of the Stibnite Gold Project and the benefits it will bring to Idaho. This project has the potential to put hundreds of Idahoans to work, bring a \$1 billion investment into our state and restore an area of Idaho's backcountry desperately in need of repair. Today, fish cannot swim past the Yellow Pine pit and heavy metals are leaching into the ground and surface water. The Stibnite Gold Project can leave the conditions better than they are today.

Perpetua Resources has studied Stibnite for the past 12 years. The company has identified a safe way to mine the site, while minimizing environmental impacts in the Burntlog Route and providing our nation with a source of the critical mineral antimony. Today, there is no mined antimony in the United States and that concerns me. Antimony is crucial to our national security. It is found in every military bullet, uniform and flare. Simply put, we need antimony to keep our troops and country safe. The Stibnite Gold Project would meet 35% of America's antimony demand. This is clearly a project we need to move forward.

Let Idahoans see the benefits of the Stibnite Gold Project. The USFS has reviewing the project for the last six years. During this time, the company has reduced the project size by 13% in the SDEIS, decreased maximum water temperature to keep it at or below baseline conditions and eliminated the need for long-term water treatment. The review process is working and now we need regulators to advance the project as expeditiously as possible.

Helen Phillips