

I am writing to express my full support of Perpetua Resources and the Stibnite Gold Project. Perpetua has shown they are committed to Idaho and want to take care of the environment. The company designed its project to clean up legacy waste, reconnect salmon to their native spawning grounds and fix one of the watershed's largest source of sedimentation. The Stibnite Gold Project would water quality, wetlands and the river better than they are today. I hope you move forward and permit this project as quickly as possible.

The Stibnite Gold Project would secure America's only source of antimony. Today, we predominately rely on China and Russia for this critical mineral, which is concerning given its importance. Antimony is used heavily in national defense applications, including everything from munitions to military uniforms. It is also key to the clean energy transition. In fact, Perpetua Resources plans to supply antimony to large-scale battery maker Ambri, so they can commercialize their technology. The antimony from Stibnite could help power approximately 1 million homes with solar power for the battery's 20+ lifespan. I support the Stibnite Gold Project using the Burntlog route because I want to help America reach our clean energy goals and remain a safe country.

The SDEIS reduces the size of the project footprint, improves water quality, eliminates the need for long-term water treatment and makes sure water temperature on site does not exceed baseline conditions – all while providing our nation with access to a mineral we desperately need. The permitting process has been thorough and complete. Now, I hope the U.S. Forest Service will realize the benefits this project and permit the Stibnite Gold Project using the 2021 Modified Mine Plan.

DAVID KROPF