

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.

I understand that in order for Perpetua Resources' Stibnite Gold project to move forward, the company must meet strict state and federal regulations. This gives me faith in the project and process. In addition to a positive record of decision through the NEPA process, Perpetua Resources will still need to obtain up to 50 other permits, approvals and conditions ranging from the Clean Water Act to providing financial assurances for restoration. The Forest Service cannot approve the project without ascertaining that all of these approvals are issued and conditions met. I support Perpetua Resources' plans to restore the site, bring hundreds of jobs to rural Idaho and mine gold and antimony as outlined under the 2021 Modified Mine Plan. I am appreciative of the additional work the company has done to limit its project footprint, improve water temperatures on the site and eliminate long-term water treatment.

Thank you for reviewing my comments. Again, after the USFS has lead a rigorous review process, I urge you to permit Perpetua Resources' carefully thought out plan as outlined under the 2021 Modified Mine Plan.

Elizabeth Smith