

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 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 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.

Linda Veselka