

I am proud to welcome Perpetua Resources into our state and proud to support the Stibnite Gold Project. The project will produce America's only source of antimony, a mineral our national security and clean energy future depends upon, and leave the site in better condition than it is today. I hope you will take the time to consider my comments on why you should move to permit the project.

Given the history of the region, I was a bit skeptical when I first heard about this project, but it is clear that Perpetua is going out of their way to put environmental safety and restoration front and center. Especially with the improvements the company made in its 2021 Modified Mine Plan. For example, in the SDEIS the company eliminated the Fiddle Rock Development Storage facility, which resulted in a 168-acre reduction in the project footprint. They also made improvements to water quality, so no long-term water treatment will be necessary after mining is complete. After looking at the tools provided by the USFS, I feel strongly that the Modified Mine Plan is the best option moving forward. It addresses the purpose and need of the agencies in a manner that provides environmental advantage and economic feasibility over the other analyzed alternatives. With so much promise for the site's future, I hope the consideration of no action is removed from the table. There is finally an opportunity to restore the site and help secure America's source of antimony, a designated critical mineral.

I appreciate your time and thoughtfulness in the review process. The U.S. Forest Service has not cut any corners over the past 6 years analyzing the project and I've appreciated the opportunities to provide feedback. For the reasons I stated in my letter above, please permit the Stibnite Gold Project.

Christy Assid