

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the SDEIS for the Stibnite Gold Project. This project is important for Idaho's future and our nation's future. Perpetua Resources has a plan to leave the site better than they found it and produce antimony, a mineral we need for our national defense and clean energy future.

I am impressed with Perpetua Resources' current dedication to repairing legacy environmental issues at the site from mining activity that took place on and off for more than 100 years. This is a major investment. Government agencies would not have the budget to perform all the necessarily reclamation work. This private/public partnership is the right approach for Idaho and will solve environmental issues while providing the area with a significant economic boost. In reviewing the SDEIS, I am very impressed with the further improvements the company has made to its plan. They eliminated the Fiddle Development Rock Storage Facility, reduced the project footprint again, added more plantings on site to reduce water temperature and outlined additional actions to be taken to improve water quality. It is clear to me we have a path forward that will protect Idaho's environment and allow us to mine a critical mineral our nation is currently lacking.

I encourage the USFS to move the Stibnite Gold Project forward and permit Perpetua Resources' project as outlined in the 2021 Modified Mine Plan. At this point, the Stibnite Gold Project has been studied by regulators for the last six year. That is enough. Now, it is time to let Perpetua get to work.

Allen Watkins