

MARC GIBBS

DISTRICT 32
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House of Representatives State of Idaho

November 16, 2022

U.S. Forest Service, Payette National Forest
Attn: Linda Jackson, Payette Forest Supervisor
500 North Mission Street, Building 2
McCall, ID 83638

RE: Stibnite Gold Project

Attention Linda Jackson,

As a native Idahoan and a representative of Idaho's 32nd legislative district, I am committed to securing the best future for our state. The Stibnite Gold Project, proposed by Perpetua Resources fits squarely in that category. This project provides Idaho with an exceptional opportunity to diversify its economy and engage its communities and it should receive immediate approval.

As Chair of the Idaho House Resources and Conservation Committee, it is important to me that we support sustainable, responsible projects that have a profound economic impact on our communities. An independent study by Highland Economics on the economic impacts of the project found, during construction, the direct impact on the local economy would be \$18.1 million a year in taxes, wages and ancillary benefits. Critical public focused areas, including our schools and law enforcement, would realize more than \$300,000 a year annually from this project. Perpetua is committed to hiring local and supporting training opportunities for Idahoans by working directly with schools, community colleges and the Idaho Department of Labor.

Perpetua Resources is about Idaho and the company is committed to investing right here in our great state, in our people and our products. This project is the type of long-term economic investment that our state desperately needs. Not only does it serve as an economic boon to our state, but it also prioritizes and invests in the people of Idaho.

Perpetua has been a great example of how mining companies can provide benefits to both their communities and their environment. The company has a reputation of being a great community partner and for high-quality community engagement. One of the ways they do so is through their Community Partnership Agreement which created the Stibnite Advisory Council. An organization which represents the voices of all 8 of the communities who signed the Community Partnership Agreement. Each community independently selects a resident to represent the community on the Council so that they can bring their questions and concerns directly to Perpetua's management.

The company has also taken great actions to start addressing the environmental legacies at Stibnite. In 2021, the company signed an Administrative Settlement Agreement and Order on Consent with the EPA and other federal agencies, to begin addressing time critical water quality concerns at Stibnite. It was exciting to see their clean up work begin this summer.

I urge the U.S. Forest Service to allow this project to move forward as quickly as possible.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Marc Gibbs".

Rep. Marc Gibbs
Legislative District 32