

I am proud to submit my comments in support of Perpetua Resources' Stibnite Gold Project. This project presents our state with an incredible opportunity to bring well-paying jobs to rural Idaho, boost our state's economy and provide our nation with the much-needed critical mineral antimony. Today, America relies on China and Russia to provide us with antimony. The Stibnite Gold Project could help us secure a domestic source of antimony.

It is clear to me that Perpetua's refined plan, identified as the preferred alternative in the SDEIS, is the safest option for Idahoans. In this plan, Perpetua will utilize the Burntlog Route and not travel along Johnson Creek. This will help reduce the impacts of mine traffic on roads used by recreationalists. Burntlog is also a much safer option. In fact, the SDEIS says there are more avalanches and rockfalls along the Johnson Creek Route and these incidents are more significant in size. It would be unwise to route mine traffic on a road with so many known risks and would likely increase the possibility of accidents. Therefore, I support the preferred alternative using Burntlog Road.

As the U.S. Forest Service and other state and federal agencies review the 2021 Modified Mine Plan and determine the course of action, I encourage you to consider the positive benefits Perpetua Resources will have on Idaho, especially now that the company has reduced its environmental footprint and made further improvements to water quality. This truly is a win-win opportunity for Idahoans and the environment. After years of careful scrutiny by regulators and the community, it is time for us to make these benefits a reality.

Larry Johnson