

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.

America needs antimony and gold. We need to strengthen our supply chains and bring mining home. I know people are concerned about mining's impacts on the environment but regulators identified Perpetua Resources refined plan as it preferred alternative because they determined the company could mine while minimizing impacts on the environment and communities. One of the ways the company does that is by using Burntlog Road. This reduces the number of stream crossings for mine traffic compared to the Johnson Creek Route, reduces the chances of accidents with recreationalists and minimizes the impacts of potential spills. By keeping traffic away from river crossings, it also lowers sedimentation impacts from mining.

It is with this knowledge that I encourage the U.S. Forest Service to select the 2021 Modified Mine Plan Perpetua Resources presented and permit the project.

JoAnne Portzline