



## House of Representatives State of Idaho

November 15, 2022

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

**RE: Approve the Perpetua Resources Stibnite Gold Project**

Supervisor Jackson,

I am writing to express my support for the Stibnite Gold Project examined in the U.S. Forest Service's supplemental draft Environmental Impact Statement. I believe that approving this project proposal and allowing it to move forward is the best choice for Idaho's future.


As the Co-Chair of the Joint Finance and Appropriations Committee, it is important to point out the economic benefit of this project. The Stibnite project would provide an estimated \$1 billion investment in Idaho. Perpetua's proposed mining project will bring much needed jobs and tax revenues to Idaho. The company has committed to hiring from within Idaho and will work with local businesses whenever possible - providing opportunities to countless businesses outside of the actual mining operations. Their business in Idaho will support Idaho entrepreneurs and families from across the state.

The local economic impact from direct job creation is estimated to be more than \$18 million per year during construction, \$18 million per year during operations, and close to \$4 million per year during reclamation. This revenue will support our state's infrastructure projects and support our local schools, helping to create an Idaho capable of taking on a next generation economy and workforce for the future.

On top of the economic benefits of the project, the Stibnite Gold Project is the only viable solution for restoring a site that has been abandoned after 100 years of mining. Without the private investment that Perpetua's plan entails, Stibnite may never be restored. It will cost tens of millions of dollars to reclaim Stibnite and even more to return the site as close to natural conditions as possible like Perpetua has committed to do. And this restoration will not occur at the expense of the taxpayer. It is a solution that benefits all stakeholders involved and we would be remiss to ignore this opportunity.

I encourage the U.S. Forest Service to permit the 2021 MMP and to move forward with this economic boon for the Gem State.

Respectfully,

  
Idaho State Representative  
Rick D. Youngblood  
Chair, House Appropriations Committee  
Co-Chair Joint Finance & Appropriations  
Transportation & Defense Committee