

I am writing to express my views on Perpetua Resources' Stibnite Gold Project. The opportunity presented by the project is compelling for many reasons and I am committed to seeing come to fruition. This is the best opportunity to clean up legacy tailings and waste, reconnect fish to miles of spawning grounds that they have been blocked from for 80 years and restore a river. Without Perpetua Resources, the site will likely never get the environmental attention it deserves.

Perpetua Resources made a lot of improvements to its plan after the last comment period. The community's feedback made the Stibnite Gold Project better. In fact, regulators identified Perpetua's plan as their preferred alternative in the SDEIS. This is a big deal and signals that regulators believe Perpetua can safely mine the site and limit its impact on the environment and surrounding communities. We need the minerals from this project. Now that Perpetua has eliminated the need for long-term water treatment, improved water temperatures on site and reduced the size of the project, the Stibnite Gold Project should move forward.

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.

Robert Ward