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## 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: Stibnite Gold Project** 

Greetings Ms. Jackson and Staff,

After reviewing the USFS's supplemental EIS for the Stibnite Gold Project, I support the proposal put forward by Perpetua Resources and I write to you today to encourage its timely approval. As a small business owner and an Idaho State Representative, I realize the importance of economic investment and believe in the supply chain benefits that will trickle-down into many facets of our communities.

Job creation and economic prosperity are high priorities for Idaho and is why I am proud to support this project. The Stibnite Gold project would add up to 1,000 jobs during the 20-year duration of the project and the company has committed to hiring local, which includes privately funded job training opportunities for Idahoans. In Valley County, a quarter of the employment today is in the leisure and hospitality fields. The positions provided by Perpetua, however, are estimated to pay up to four times the average wages earned in these two industries.

During the span of the project, it is estimated that Idaho would see more than \$150 million in state and local tax revenues. Perpetua has also committed that the equipment and materials for the project will be purchased locally from Idaho vendors when feasible. Overall, the analysis of the economic impacts of the project by Highland Economics found that total local income tax payments would be nearly \$450 million. Clearly, this is an essential private investment in our community that will help Idaho grow without the use or waste of taxpayer dollars.

The Stibnite Mining District served a critical role during the WWI & II war efforts. The antimony & tungsten mined at the site was credited for shortening WWII by a year and saving over a million American lives. The mining during this era occurred before the major environmental regulations were passed in the 1970s. As a result, Stibnite is rife with environmental concerns. The Stibnite Gold Project is an opportunity to bring \$1 billion of private investment and economic windfall to Idaho, all while restoring an area damaged by a century of mining.

I urge you to move Perpetua's modified mine plan forward.

Thank you for your consideration of my comments,

Rep. Jim Addis (District 4A)