

America desperately needs antimony. This mineral is used in munitions, large-capacity storage batteries, fire retardants and more. Currently, we are entirely dependent on foreign countries to provide this mineral, which is why I am writing in support of the Stibnite Gold Project. This project can stop our import reliance on antimony.

I am pleased to see Perpetua Resources wants to take responsibility and clean up the damage left behind by mining operations in the early 20th Century – even though the company was not involved in any of the previous activity at the site. Perpetua has a plan to reunite salmon and trout with their spawning grounds for the first time in 80 years. They plan to provide permanent access to approximately 25 miles of perennial stream and 6 miles of anadromous fish spawning habitat, and the company has agreed to install a temporary fish passageway that will allow fish to swim past the old mining pit before mining even begins. The SDEIS concludes providing volitional passage would result in major, permanent, regional and beneficial effects for fish. Perpetua Resources is our best chance to rewrite the history of the site and finally fix longstanding environmental issues.

The Stibnite Gold Project has been under federal review for the last six years. That has given regulators and the public plenty of time to review the company's plan. I know this project will transform an area in need of environmental repair and secure a domestic supply of antimony. It is for all of these reasons that I encourage you to move the Stibnite Gold Project forward.

Ellen Verdel