



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

Greetings Ms. Jackson,

I am writing you today to express my support for the Perpetua Resources Stibnite Gold Project under consideration in the U.S. Forest Service's recently released supplemental draft Environmental Impact Statement (SDEIS).

After reviewing the supplemental EIS, I am confident that this proposal will bring prosperity to Idaho families while protecting our environment. I urge you to adopt Perpetua's modified mine plan and allow the company to responsibly move forward with this project.

Perpetua Resources has made a promise to Idaho families, working to bring high-paying jobs back to the region and providing future opportunities for Idaho's youth. In fact, they have programs in place already that specifically focus on educating our children and preparing them for the next generation economy. Working with schools throughout Valley and Adams County, Perpetua has established after-school programs focused on coding and STEM programs. These after-school programs teach students to code and build robots, making learning about the technology of the future fun, while enriching.

With my work on the House Education Committee, it is great to see a company support local education. And Perpetua has done just that. Since 2015, the company has supported 39 students with over \$50,000 to help them achieve their higher education goals. And since 2019, they have partnered with local schools to provide over \$115,000 in STEM programming, annual back to school supplies, children's books, and other classroom activities and upgrades.

Perpetua Resources is committed to our families, by providing new jobs and bringing increased in state tax revenues to Idaho. If permitted, the Stibnite Gold Project would represent a \$1 billion dollar investment in Idaho. Perpetua plans to hire up to 1,000 employees during operations and will have a yearly payroll of up to \$51 million. This money will spread throughout Idaho communities as it is spent at local stores, restaurants, and on housing. An independent study of the economic impacts found that during the construction phase the direct impact on the economy would amount to \$18 million.

This project has the potential to impact many lives across Idaho for the better. And the project has undergone over 6 years of environmental and regulatory review. It is time to move this project forward. I hope you will take my comments into consideration and approve this project.

Best wishes,


Barbara Ehardt

Idaho House of Representatives, District 33A