



Idaho State Legislature
700 West Jefferson Street
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, Idaho 83720

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

RE: Support the Perpetua Resources Stibnite Gold Project

Dear Ms. Jackson,

I am writing to express my support for the Stibnite Gold Project proposed by Perpetua Resources Idaho. I am encouraged by Perpetua Resources' proposal, especially the economic windfall and environmental mitigation efforts. If realized, Idahoans, our communities, and the environment will certainly stand to benefit.

My goal as an Idaho State Representative is to serve my constituents and my experience as Chair of the House Commerce & Human Resources Committee has helped me appreciate the diverse needs of families in the Gem State. Idaho continues to rank among the lowest in the country for per capita income and wages. But the Stibnite Gold Project would offer a unique opportunity to fix that statistic.

Perpetua Resources has committed to hiring locally and supporting training opportunities for Idahoans by working directly with local schools and colleges as well as the Idaho Department of Labor. In short, these jobs will be filled by our constituents and directly help the families in Idaho that need it most. In fact, Perpetua's anticipated average salary of \$80,000 is nearly double the current average salary in Valley County. The company anticipates that they will provide over 500 employees, one third of which would come directly from the region.

In fact, an independent economics firm estimated that the \$1 billion investment from Perpetua Resources will have significant impacts on the community from job creation alone. They estimate that direct and indirect impacts of the Stibnite Gold Project would generate more than \$29 million in annual local incomes during the years of operations. That same economic analysis also found that our schools, local police and local municipalities could see up to \$300,000 annually from property taxes.

Perpetua Resources is clearly committed to investing in our people and our communities. The positive impact that this proposed project can have on our constituency necessitates the project's swift approval. I urge the U.S. Forest Service to move forward with Perpetua Resources' 2021 Modified Mine Plan considered in the supplemental draft environmental impact statement. This project will be a win-win for Idaho.

Sincerely,


Rep. James Holtzclaw, District 20