



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

November 30, 2022

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

Greetings Ms. Jackson and Staff,

I am writing you to express my support for Perpetua Resources' Stibnite Gold Project. After examination of the recently released supplemental draft of the Environmental Impact Statement for the project I can see that both the company and regulators have worked hard to consider what would be best for Idaho. I appreciate the work that has been done to protect Idaho's environment and precious natural resources. That is why I support the company's 2021 mining proposal.

A hundred years of mining in the Stibnite area has greatly harmed the environment. The abandoned pits, accelerated erosion, and elevated metals in surface and ground waters have harmed Idaho and marred its natural beauty. As laid out in their MMP, Perpetua is committed to cleaning up and restoring the environment surrounding the mine site. Restoring our land and our waters is essential to the future of Idaho's great outdoors and critical to the long-term health and well-being of the community.

And right now, no one is responsible for restoring Stibnite. If the USFS selects the no action alternative, Stibnite might never be restored and our Salmon and other wildlife populations will continue to suffer for it.

It's also important to note the costs associated with a cleanup of this size. We cannot - nor should we - count on the taxpayer resources to address these concerns. That is why this influx of private investment is essential, and Perpetua's potential investment of more than \$1 billion to this project is just what is needed.

I urge the U.S. Forest Service to permit the Stibnite Gold Project and move this project forward as quickly as possible. I am confident that it is the right move for Idaho.

As a Representative and an Idahoan, I hope that you will consider my thoughts during the review process.

Sincerely,


Rep. John Vander Woude