

## **Idaho State Legislature**

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

December 1, 2022

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

RE: Approve Stibnite Gold Supplemental Draft Environmental Statement

Dear Ms. Jackson,

Over the past many years as a Representative and interested party, I have had the privilege to watch the progression of Perpetua Resources' Stibnite Gold Project. After review, I strongly believe Stibnite Gold will help bring jobs to Idaho and boost our economy.

If approved, Stibnite Gold would be the only domestically sourced antimony site in the US. Currently, our nation depends on Chinese and Russian imports of this critical mineral, which is used to manufacture ammunition and semiconductors. Supplying antimony from Idaho can help secure our national defense and protect our military heroes.

Moreover, Perpetua has shown its committed to responsible mining practices. As outlined in the Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (SDEIS), Stibnite Gold will reduce 47% of of arsenic in the East Fork South Fork Salmon River on site, as well as a 40% reduction of arsenic in the East Fork South Fork Salmon River off site. Additionally, antimony is critical for long duration storage batteries, which will help assist in the move toward cleaner energy.

Furthermore, this project will have a significant impact on our state's overall economy. With USFS approval, Perpetua will invest \$1 billion dollars in Idaho. This boost to the state's economy is crucial to the future development of Idaho and makes clear why it is so important to allow the Stibnite Gold Project to proceed.

For these reasons, I encourage the USFS to approve the SDEIS for Perpetua's Stibnite Gold Project.

Jul / Myhwll/
Britt Raybould