



## Idaho House of Representatives State of Idaho

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**

Ms. Jackson,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the Stibnite Gold Project as part of the National Environmental Policy Act. My time serving on both the House Committees on Resources & Conservation and Revenue & Taxation, I am aware of how vital this project is for the Gem State. I believe the project can help stop America's import reliance on antimony and address legacy impacts in the historic Stibnite Mining District.

As it stands today, the Stibnite Gold Project site is a brownfield site. The U.S. government tried to restore the area years ago but the work that was done didn't go far enough. The old tailings piles left behind by previous mining companies lay unconstrained on the valley floor and are therefore a leading source of metal loading in the waterways at Stibnite.

No one is legally responsible for restoring Stibnite. If this project is not approved, Stibnite may never be restored and the legacy mine issues will continue to impact water quality and wildlife. It is our duty as Idahoans, and mine personally as an Idaho State Representative, to help find solutions for places like Stibnite. And it is my belief, that Perpetua Resources' 2021 Modified Mine Plan as laid out in the supplemental draft environmental impact statement is the best solution for Stibnite.

As a US citizen, we cannot ignore how the production of antimony at Stibnite will strengthen our national security. Right now, the U.S. relies primarily on China and Russia for this mineral- because there is no domestically mined source of antimony. With the recent pandemic and the incursion in Ukraine, Americans value a domestic supply chain for strategic minerals more than ever.

The Stibnite Gold Project could produce over 100 million pounds of antimony and meet roughly 35% of U.S. demand in the first couple years of production. Antimony is used in every bullet that our armed services fires, in lead-acid batteries and in flame retardants.

This project will transform an area in need of environmental repair and secure a domestic supply of antimony. It is for those reasons that I encourage you to move the Stibnite Gold Project forward.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "D. Manwaring", written over a large, stylized blue scribble.

Rep. Dustin Manwaring