



Idaho State Senate State of Idaho

December 2, 2022

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

RE: Approve the Perpetua Resources Stibnite Gold Project

Greetings Ms. Jackson,

I'm writing to you today as an elected senator from Idaho and as a longtime resident of the state. I want to express my support for Perpetua Resources' proposed Stibnite Gold project in both of these capacities. This project is exactly the kind of opportunity we need in the Gem State because it has the potential to boost Idaho's economy and is the only strategy to finally clean up and restore the historic Stibnite mining district. Living close to the world famous phosphate patch I fully understand the importance mining can bring to rural Idaho.

From an economic perspective, this project helps the state create many well-paying jobs. Perpetua Resources plans to hire up to 600 workers with average yearly salaries of \$80,000. The less noticeable but no less lucrative broader economic impact during construction amounted to nearly \$30 million in direct, indirect, and induced effects. Property taxes on the project are anticipated to generate \$300,000 a year for public institutions like universities, police departments, and local governments. Clearly, both private and public entities benefit from the Stibnite Gold Project.

In order to ensure that their operations leave the land in a better condition than it was found, Perpetua Resources has outlined in the 2021 Modified Mining Plan with the U.S. Forest Service how it will act as an environmental steward. Continuous operations, safety measures, and technological tools are cutting edge and fully compliant with all laws and regulations.

Given the changes outlined in the Supplemental and the six years of regulatory review this project has undergone, I think the NEPA permitting process has been successful. The Stibnite Gold Project has improved steadily over time. And to help get the best version of this project approved, Perpetua and the US Forest Service both used community feedback. Now is the time to start this thing up.

I have carefully reviewed the supplemental draft EIS and would like to urge the U.S. Forest Service to convert the 2021 MMP into a Final EIS. I also value the U.S. Forest Service's dedication to Idaho, which is evident in the project's thorough review.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jim Guthrie".

Sen. Jim Guthrie - District 28