



## 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

Ms. Linda Jackson,

Thank you for the opportunity to once again show my support for Perpetua Resources Idaho's Stibnite Gold Project. This project presents our state with an incredible opportunity to bring well-paying jobs to rural Idaho, boost our state's economy and provide our nation with a much-needed critical mineral. Over the past several years Perpetua has shown its commitment to Valley County and the state of Idaho and I encourage you to permit the proposed activities outlined by the company's modified mine plan in the supplemental EIS.

I am impressed with Perpetua Resources' commitment to repairing legacy environmental issues left over from mining activity that took place on and off for more than 100 years. This is a major investment that right now, no one other than Perpetua is willing to make. This private/public partnership is the right approach for Idaho and will solve environmental issues while providing the area with a significant economic boost. In reviewing the SEIS, I am very impressed with the further improvements the company has made to its plan based on the feedback they received on their draft EIS.

Some of these changes include the reduction of Hangar Flats Pit by 70%, a reduction in mined material by 10% and the inclusion of Stibnite Lake and more geosynthetic covers to features at Stibnite. The best part is that they anticipate environmental improvements from these changes, including: water temperatures reduced to be at or below the current conditions, uplift in wetlands quality and a 13% reduction in the project footprint over the original project design.

This project has been going through the regulatory process for many years and has been thoroughly reviewed. The Stibnite Gold Project is important to Idaho and our national security. I encourage you to permit the project as quickly as possible.

Respectfully,

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

Sen. Doug Okuniewicz

Idaho State Senate, District 3