



**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, Building 2  
McCall, ID 83638

**RE: Accept the SDEIS for the Perpetua Resources Stibnite Gold Project**

Ms. Jackson,

I am writing to express my support for Perpetua Resources' proposed Stibnite Gold Project (SGP). As a member of the Idaho House of Representatives for Legislative District 5, I personally understand the importance of mining in Idaho including the Stibnite project.

First off, I commend the U.S. Forest Service for promptly releasing the SDEIS, or supplemental draft environmental impact statement. I've recently held the position of Chair of the House Local Government Committee, and I've worked in the mining, logging, and construction industries in our state, so I have a particular interest in this project. I'm convinced that the SGP will benefit Idaho's economy as well as the environment after carefully reading the SDEIS. Therefore, it is in the state's best interest to adopt the Preferred Alternative presented in Perpetua Resources' proposal in order to keep the permitting process moving.

In terms of per capita income and wages, Idaho consistently ranks among the lowest states in the nation. Many employees search for jobs outside of the state because Valley County unemployment is so high. Throughout the course of the project, Perpetua has made it clear that they are committed to using local vendors whenever possible and hiring employees directly from Idaho.

The commitment of Perpetua Resources to safeguarding and enhancing the environment surrounding the Stibnite site is another advantage of this project. The region is in terrible shape as a result of years of legacy mining that took place before the strict regulatory requirements we now have in place. The SDEIS's Modified Mine Plan (MMP) by Perpetua will ensure that restoration and reclamation take place and that Stibnite is ultimately left in a better state than it is now.

Please approve Perpetua Resources 2021 MMP for the Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

Sincerely,

Rep. Ron Mendive