



Idaho House of Representatives State of Idaho

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

Attention Ms. Linda Jackson,

As a representative of Idaho's 20th Legislative district and a former member of the Idaho Army National Guard, I have dedicated my life to the protection and prosperity of the Gem State. The Stibnite Gold Project proposed by Perpetua Resources Idaho is an exciting opportunity to put this state's natural resources to good use, to help boost our economy, and generate investment in Idaho.

For these reasons, I am writing to you today in support of the Stibnite Gold Project.

Idaho was settled upon vast untapped reserves of minerals and metals. Perpetua Resources is offering Idaho the opportunity to utilize and profit from these resources rather than squander them. Harvesting the gold and antimony deposits in Stibnite will generate significant revenue for the state and the nation's economy. If this projected is granted approval, it would be a \$1 billion dollar investment in the state that will provide hundreds of jobs to rural communities.

I find it prudent to discuss the importance of the antimony resource at Stibnite. Every bullet fired by our armed services contains antimony. The Department of Defense has been unable to get military grade antimony from China for the last two years. And one day soon our antimony stockpile will run out. Perpetua's recent grants from the Department to study whether or not their antimony can meet military specifications signals how critical their antimony resource is to our national defense. We cannot continue to leave our nation vulnerable by relying on Russia and China for our antimony when we have a significant resource right here in Idaho.

Another important note is the attention and integrity Perpetua has demonstrated towards Idaho's communities. Perpetua has developed a community agreement program that will allow community members and organizations to provide input through the life of the project, guaranteeing that the interests and concerns of Idahoans are not ignored.

I appreciate the U.S. Forest Service for comprehensively examining the impacts of Perpetua's project proposal. I recommend that the U.S. Forest Service permit the Modified Mine Plan and get this project moving forward.

Thanks for your consideration,

Rep. Joe Palmer – Idaho House of Representatives