



## Idaho State Senate

700 West Jefferson Street  
P.O. Box 83720  
Boise, Idaho 83720-0038

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: Support the Perpetua Resources 2021 MMP**

Dear Ms. Linda Jackson,

It is my pleasure to write a letter of support for Perpetua Resources Stibnite Gold Project. I ask that you please approve Perpetua Resource 2021 Modified Mine Plan (MMP) that was identified as the Preferred Alternative in the Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

As an Idaho State Senator, it is my goal to do what is best for Idaho. Therefore, I was unable to ignore the positive effects that this proposed project will undoubtedly have on the local and state economies. Mining is an extremely important part of the community that I live in and thus understand what it can do for rural Idaho.

The proposed project's economic effects are justification enough to approve it. Perpetua Resources has agreed to invest \$1 billion in Idaho over the course of the project's twenty-year lifespan. The project is anticipated to produce upwards of \$100 million in tax revenues during construction alone because of the 500 to 600 jobs the company plans to hire during this phase. The Stibnite project will aid in restoring important jobs to the region; in fact, Perpetua anticipates that many of these positions will pay an average of \$80,000. That is a fantastic opportunity that Valley County residents greatly need.

The Stibnite mining area was left in poor condition due to lax regulatory requirements that existed decades ago. Perpetua Resources has pledged today to be a good environmental steward by using technologies and equipment in accordance with modern environmental regulations and laws to restore the Stibnite mining area to its previous state, as discussed in the 2021 MMP. It is worth noting that a project of this magnitude comes at a high cost, which would otherwise be carried by taxpayers. Perpetua Resources is the ideal combination of good corporate citizenship and the needed private direct investment to help the region recover.

Restoration is costly, and without government funding, restoration will never be feasible. And the Stibnite Gold Project brings that to the table. Idaho cannot refuse Perpetua's Stibnite Gold Project. I am encouraged by the Forest Service's decision to declare Perpetua's 2021 MMP as the preferred alternative, and I hope that the agency approves this project so that it can begin as soon as possible.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

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

Senator Mark Harris – District 35  
Majority Caucus Chair