

America desperately needs antimony. This mineral is used in munitions, large-capacity storage batteries, fire retardants and more. Currently, we are entirely dependent on foreign countries to provide this mineral, which is why I am writing in support of the Stibnite Gold Project. This project can stop our import reliance on antimony.

Idaho is known for its outdoor recreation opportunities, so I understand people's concerns over how the Stibnite Gold Project would impact local tourism. However, the USFS' previous analysis concluded the project would have negligible socioeconomic impacts to the region's recreation tourism sector. So, I feel comfortable supporting the project and the other economic benefits it would bring to our region, including 500+ well-paying jobs, a boon to the state's tax-base and millions more dollars circulating in our local economy. This is our best chance to restore the abandoned Stibnite Mining District, improve regional water quality and secure an American source of antimony. I hope we take advantage of the opportunities the Stibnite Gold Project presents.

Perpetua Resources wants to invest \$1 billion in our state, bring more than 1,000 jobs to rural Idaho and still provide access to Idaho's public lands. This is the type of project our state needs. After reviewing the project for six years, I highly encourage the U.S. Forest Service to move the project forward with the improvements laid out in the SDEIS.

Dale Nelson