

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the SDEIS for the Stibnite Gold Project. This project is important for Idaho's future and our nation's future. Perpetua Resources has a plan to leave the site better than they found it and produce antimony, a mineral we need for our national defense and clean energy future.

Given the history of the region, I was a bit skeptical when I first heard about this project, but it is clear that Perpetua is going out of their way to put environmental safety and restoration front and center. That is why the USFS identified the company's 2021 Modified Mine Plan as its preferred alternative. The refined plan eliminates the need for long-term water treatment, incorporates measures to manage stream temperatures and reduces impacts associated with access and transportation on Johnson Creek. The fact that regulators named the company's plan as its preferred alternative gives me great confidence in the company's plan. Plus, regulators have concluded the Modified Mine Plan will let Perpetua mine while giving consideration to environmental, economic and technical factors.

The Stibnite Gold Project has been under federal review for the last six years. That has given regulators and the public plenty of time to review the company's plan. I know this project will transform an area in need of environmental repair and secure a domestic supply of antimony. It is for all of these reasons that I encourage you to move the Stibnite Gold Project forward.

Thomas Whitley