

It is with great pleasure that I write to the U.S. Forest Service to encourage you to permit the proposed activities outlined by Perpetua Resources during this public input process. This project could help restore Stibnite, secure an American source of antimony and strengthen our nation's supply chains.

Regulators named Perpetua Resources' improved plan as its preferred alternative because the company proved it could mine safely while minimizing its impacts to the environment and community. Perpetua Resources will be transporting hazardous materials to and from the site, which is why I am grateful the USFS recognizes Burntlog Road is a safer option because it minimizes river crosses and rarely parallels waterways. As long as there is activity at the site, there will always be the possibility a spill could occur. However, the SDEIS concluded the duration of any single incident involving hazardous materials would only last hours or days and would likely be readily cleaned up and contained without any release to the environment. The SDEIS shows me Perpetua really can leave the site better than they found it.

After reading my letter, I hope you can see why you should permit the Stibnite Gold Project. This project is a good thing for Idaho, helps decrease America's dependence on foreign countries for a critical mineral and cleans up the environment. The company also continued to refine its plan in response to the permitting process, so it has the smallest footprint possible and results in improved water quality conditions on site.

Melvin Ross