

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.

A diverse economy is a strong economy. I am excited about the year-round employment opportunities and other benefits the Stibnite Gold Project will bring to the region. The economic impacts of the project have been closely analyzed by the USFS and numerous other independent, third-party analysts. I know some are concerned about the project's impacts to tourism. However, analysis by the USFS in the DEIS importantly concluded that the Stibnite Gold Project would have negligible socioeconomic impacts to the region's recreation tourism sector. I hope the Stibnite Gold Project will be allowed to move forward utilizing Burntlog Road, so we can provide more than 500 family-wage jobs to Idahoans and inject millions into the local economy.

I appreciate your time and thoughtfulness in the review process. The U.S. Forest Service has not cut any corners over the past 6 years analyzing the project and I've appreciated the opportunities to provide feedback. For the reasons I stated in my letter above, please permit the Stibnite Gold Project.

Gary Deatherage