

I am writing to express my full support of Perpetua Resources and the Stibnite Gold Project. The project would finally address legacy mining issues that have been plaguing the site for decades and help secure the minerals we need for America's future. The company has shown its commitment to Valley County and the state of Idaho and I encourage you to adopt the proposed activities outlined in the company's 2021 Modified Mine Plan during the permitting process.

It is clear to me that Perpetua's refined plan, identified as the preferred alternative in the SDEIS, is the safest option for Idahoans. In this plan, Perpetua will utilize the Burntlog Route and not travel along Johnson Creek. This will help reduce the impacts of mine traffic on roads used by recreationalists. Burntlog is also a much safer option. In fact, the SDEIS says there are more avalanches and rockfalls along the Johnson Creek Route and these incidents are more significant in size. It would be unwise to route mine traffic on a road with so many known risks and would likely increase the possibility of accidents. Therefore, I support the preferred alternative using Burntlog Road.

The SDEIS reduces the size of the project footprint, improves water quality, eliminates the need for long-term water treatment and makes sure water temperature on site does not exceed baseline conditions – all while providing our nation with access to a mineral we desperately need. The permitting process has been thorough and complete. Now, I hope the U.S. Forest Service will realize the benefits this project and permit the Stibnite Gold Project using the 2021 Modified Mine Plan.

Vernon Thorson