



## Idaho State Senate

PO Box 83720  
Boise, ID 83720

January 5, 2023

U.S. Forest Service, Payette National Forest  
Attn: Linda Jackson, Payette Forest Supervisor  
500 North Mission Street, Building 2  
McCall, ID 83638

### **RE: Support the Perpetua Resources Stibnite Gold Project**

Attention Ms. Jackson and Staff,

As an Idaho State Senator, I appreciate the opportunity to comment my support for the Modified Mine Plan in the Supplemental Draft EIS. It is my belief that the United States Forest Service (USFS) has thoroughly reviewed all aspects of the project and that the NEPA process has ultimately resulted in a better mine plan.

Perpetua's modified mine plan, or ModPRO2, is a great example of how years of scientific analysis, community and stakeholder feedback, and environmental review can create a mine plan that is best for both the local communities and the environment.

Not only will the Stibnite Gold Project (SGP) provide a significant gold resource, but it will also be the only domestically mined source of antimony. The global supply of antimony, a mineral designated critical to the US economy & our national defense, is controlled primarily by Russia, China and Tajikistan (see the USGS 2022 Mineral Commodity Summary on Antimony).

As the COVID-19 pandemic and the war in Ukraine have both demonstrated, our global supply chains are becoming ever more vulnerable. Both former President Trump (R) and President Biden (D) have recognized the importance of securing our domestic critical mineral supply chains.

As a former Non-Commissioned Officer in the U.S. Marine Corps and someone who was raised on a mission field in Kiev, Ukraine, I cannot begin to express the importance of securing our supply of antimony in order to produce the ammunition needed to defend our national security.

Perpetua's SGP provides the perfect avenue to secure our antimony supply chain. The company can meet ~35% of US antimony demand in the first six years of production. And Perpetua recently received grants from the US Department of Defense to study the antimony at Stibnite to determine if it can meet military specifications.

I cannot urge the United States Forest Service enough to select the Burntlog Alternative and continue advancing this project through the permitting process so that we can secure a US mined supply of antimony to help protect ourselves and our allies from Russia and China.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sen. Ben Adams

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ben Adams", written over a large, stylized flourish.

Idaho State Senate – District 12