

January 6, 2023

Linda Jackson
Payette Forest Supervisor
US Forest Service
500 North Mission Street
McCall, Idaho 83638

Re: Stibnite Gold Project - SDEIS

Dear Mrs. Jackson,

I would like to write a formal letter in support of the proposed Stibnite Gold Project. I have had the pleasure of working closely with Perpetua Resources as a consultant for a number of years. Everyone that I have interacted with at Perpetua Resources have always put safety, protecting the environment, and 'doing the right thing' at the forefront of every decision.

Perpetua Resources has spent many years trying to advance this project at an enormous cost. It is beyond time to allow this project to proceed. The project will be of great benefit to Valley County (local jobs), Idaho (economic growth), and the nation (critical minerals).

The selection of the Burntlog Route is of vital importance. This route is the safest, lowest risk transportation alternative for the project. Approximately 2/3-of the length along the Burntlog Route will upgrade and improve existing forest service roads, while the remaining 1/3-of the length will be new roadway. There are a number of additional factors that point to the Burntlog Route as being the best alternative. These include:

- Fewer stream crossing, and significantly shorter distance along waterways (compared to Johnson Creek Route).
- The stream crossings occur further upstream in the watershed, so the amount of water near the roadway will be less. This will result in less potential sediment transport into the waterways.
- If the Johnson Creek Route were selected, the upgrades required for the project along the EFSFSR between Yellow Pine and Stibnite would be incredibly difficult to construct. This would significantly increase the risk of spill contamination to the EFSFSR with its associated consequences.

- The Burntlog Route has significantly fewer landslide and avalanche paths along the proposed alignment. Not only are there fewer, but the size/severity of the potential slides are minimized along the Burntlog Route. Within the last few years, there have been several significant avalanches which have occurred between Yellow Pine and Stibnite, blocking road access and the EFSFSR.
- The Burntlog Route will have less traffic and potential human interactions with mine transport activities.

Over the past 6 years, Perpetua Resources has made every effort to address and respond to the public and environmental concerns which have been brought up. During this time, the proposed actions have been refined and improved for an ultimate benefit of the community and environment. It is time to allow this project to move forward.

Thank you for all the time, dedication, and hard work that you and the Forest Service has put into this project and in protecting one of Idaho's most precious resources (its forests). I can only imagine how difficult your job is and how under-appreciated you may feel at times. I really do appreciate your involvement and look forward to seeing the Stibnite Gold Project advancing soon.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'D Meldrum', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

David Meldrum
12555 W DeMeyer Ct
Boise ID 83713