

Payette Forest Supervisor
500 N Mission St, Building 2
McCall, ID, 83638

Dear Forest Supervisor,

I am an employee of IMCO, the contractor doing the cleanup work at Stibnite in 2022. I wish to comment on the Stibnite Gold Project and the supplemental draft environmental impact statement. I support the project and what Perpetua is planning for the site. The project will economic benefits for Valley County and Idaho and will produce the strategic mineral antimony, while restoring the river and cleaning up the water.

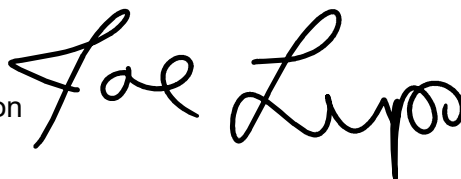
I've worked on earth moving and waste cleanup projects for 30 years across the northwestern region. I was involved in waste removal actions at Stibnite including digging up the DMEA dump and working on the lined diversion channel at smelter flats. These actions will undoubtedly help the environment, but there are much bigger problems up there. The more time I spent working on site, the more I became aware of the extent of the waste contamination. I've seen the pictures of what the site looked like in the 1980 and it was a very distressed site. All of the unvegetated reclaimed areas in the Meadow Creek valley are filled with waste from the old smelter and other contaminants. We had to dig through this to install the smelter flats diversion ditch. This waste is still there.

I believe the realistic solution to clean this up is the Stibnite Gold Project. Our cleanup actions under the AOC only scratched at the surface, just enough to divert clean water around the waste. This won't stop rain and snowmelt from infiltrating into the waste materials and eventually into the river. All this should be cleaned up and put into engineered waste repositories, as is the plan for the Stibnite Gold Project. Moving a couple hundred thousand tons isn't going to make a difference when there are still millions of tons of waste spread all over the site.

I urge the Forest Service to approve the Stibnite Gold Project under the 2021 MMP Alternative. This is a great opportunity for corporations to clean up the environment with private money while creating good jobs and producing a valuable critical mineral right here in the US.

Sincerely,

Joe Lupo
Construction Manager
IMCO General Construction

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joe Lupo". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Personal Address
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Ferndale, WA 98248