

I have been following Perpetua Resources' plans for several years. The Stibnite Gold Project presents an opportunity to restore an abandoned mine site and provide our nation with the critical minerals we need. I am grateful for the opportunity to comment on their SDEIS. I have seen Stibnite since 1988. It is not a pristine wilderness as some opponents to mining would make it. It has been impacted by many mining efforts over less regulated eras. The forests have been ravaged by beetle kill and are prime fodder for a major fire. I have witnessed several fires that come close. It is only a matter of time.

I am supportive of Perpetua Resources' refined plan in large part because regulators named it as their preferred alternative. The USFS indicated it was the best option for mining the site because it eliminated the need for perpetual water treatment, had a better access route and did a better job managing stream temperatures. Regulators would not have identified Perpetua's plan as their favorite unless they were confident the company could minimize impacts to the environment and community while mining for gold and the critical mineral antimony.

It is time to help America become less dependent on foreign countries who are our friends only when there is something in it for them. Please help this country become less dependent on China.

This Stibnite Gold Project is a huge opportunity for Idaho. Please permit the 2021 Modified Mine Plan and move the project forward so America can reap the positive impacts.

Ralph Noyes