

America desperately needs antimony. This mineral is used in munitions, large-capacity storage batteries, fire retardants and more. Currently, we are entirely dependent on foreign countries to provide this mineral, which is why I am writing in support of the Stibnite Gold Project. This project can stop our import reliance on antimony. It will also provide good jobs in Valley County and restore the river bed and land that there is otherwise no plan to restore.

In order for Perpetua Resources' Stibnite Gold Project to move forward, the company must mitigate for any impacts the project will have on the environment. In the 2021 Modern Mining Plan of the SDEIS, the company has outlined how it can leave water quality on the site better than it is today and provide fish with access to more habitat. I was pleased to learn Perpetua Resources has also taken steps to protect air quality. According to analysis in the SDEIS hazardous air pollutants were found to be well below major thresholds and the Operations Area Boundary would not exceed the National Ambient Air Quality Standards. To me, these facts from the SDEIS demonstrate the proper checks and balances are in place to protect the environment.

I encourage the USFS to move the Stibnite Gold Project forward and permit Perpetua Resources' project as outlined in the 2021 Modified Mine Plan. At this point, the Stibnite Gold Project has been studied by regulators for the last six year. That is enough. Now, it is time to let Perpetua get to work.

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