

I am proud to submit my comments in support of Perpetua Resources' Stibnite Gold Project. This project presents our state with an incredible opportunity to bring well-paying jobs to rural Idaho, boost our state's economy and provide our nation with the much-needed critical mineral antimony. Today, America relies on China and Russia to provide us with antimony. The Stibnite Gold Project could help us secure a domestic source of antimony.

Perpetua Resources made a lot of improvements to its plan after the last comment period. The community's feedback made the Stibnite Gold Project better. In fact, regulators identified Perpetua's plan as their preferred alternative in the SDEIS. This is a big deal and signals that regulators believe Perpetua can safely mine the site and limit its impact on the environment and surrounding communities. We need the minerals from this project. Now that Perpetua has eliminated the need for long-term water treatment, improved water temperatures on site and reduced the size of the project, the Stibnite Gold Project should move forward.

The SDEIS reduces the size of the project footprint, improves water quality, eliminates the need for long-term water treatment and makes sure water temperature on site does not exceed baseline conditions – all while providing our nation with access to a mineral we desperately need. The permitting process has been thorough and complete. Now, I hope the U.S. Forest Service will realize the benefits this project and permit the Stibnite Gold Project using the 2021 Modified Mine Plan.

Samantha Aydt