I am writing to voice my **opposition** to the proposed Stibnite mine in Valley County. The mine violates the Payette and Boise Forest Land Resource Plans. We live in Valley County and hike, bike and paddle all over this area. This project needs to be closely reviewed because of all the impacts it will have in Valley County and beyond.

My first question is why was climate change not considered in the modeling and the predictions of water temperatures? I especially have big concerns about a rain on snow event. This is a very possible event that could have disastrous results. The hazards to four endangered fish species of increased water temperatures are huge. Climate change must be accounted for in predictions of the impacts Stibnite Mine will have on this area.

Question two is why doesn’t Perpetua have to bond using cash, not company stock? There is no way to know what the stock will be worth in the future or if the company will be in business.

Why is Perpetua not going to bear the cost for the energy it will consume at the mine? It should not be the burden on existing Idaho Power costumers to bear the energy costs needed for the mine.

The loss of access for recreation to approximately 14,000 acres is unacceptable. Why does Perpetua have control of the access to this large area? There are so many issues this brings along with it: air quality, wildlife disruption, loss of hiking terrain are just a few. The area analyzed extends five miles from any major Stibnite Mine feature which is too small of an area to account for multiple trailheads and campgrounds that will be impacted. It is likely that if the mine is approved, Thunder Mountain, an area accessed by the Stibnite Road will be restricted or closed for the life of the mine.

What do the people of Valley County gain from having this mine? The employment economic benefit would be lost with just a 2% decline in tourism that would occur due to loss of natural amenities. The estimated property taxes that Valley County would collect is about $300,000, not even 2% of the county’s annual budget. Public services such as roads, medical care and schools will be burdened by the influx of mine workers. These additional costs will not be paid for by Perpetua’s taxes. Hence, once again the funding would be on the citizens of Valley County. The Stibnite Mine would have a boom and then bust effect on Valley County. We have seen first-hand the boom and bust cycles in small communities caused by mining, it is a real concern. It is the people that live here that will be left with recreating the economy after the boom. In short, residents in Valley County have nothing to gain from this project and so much to lose if it is approved.

There are many holes in the SDEIS Perpetua has presented to the Forest Service. I am asking that the Forest Service look at this project closely. Don’t be afraid to say **NO** to this project, or to require more research, to protect this amazing place, Valley County, that we call home.

Pam Wissenbach