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Board of County Commissioners  
TYREL HAMILTON, Chair  
STEVE RIVELAND  
JEFF RUFFATTO

Gardiner Ranger District  
**RECEIVED**

August 1, 2023

AUG 03 2023

United States Department of Agriculture  
United States Forest Service  
ATTN: East Boulder Mine Amendment 004 EIS  
C/O Robert Grosvenor  
Gardiner Ranger District  
PO Box 5  
Gardiner, MT 59030


Custer Gallatin National Forest 

RE: Sibanye Stillwater Mine - Sweetgrass County  
East Boulder Mine – Major Amendment 4

To Whom It May Concern,

Please consider this letter of support as part of the project record and public comment for the East Boulder Mine - Major Amendment 4. As you know, Stillwater County is also home to Sibanye Stillwater Mine operations. As a county partner over the last several decades, Sibanye Stillwater has been a significant contributor Stillwater County's economy, and has been recognized as a key contributor to the overall economy of the State of Montana. With over \$6 Billion in economic output, Sibanye Stillwater is approximately 6% of Montana's entire output. Mining has always been one of the legacy industries in Montana and should continue to be so. The loss of the East Boulder mine will have a ripple effect felt not only in Sweetgrass County but statewide. It sets an unwarranted precedent with substantial economic consequences. Sibanye Stillwater mining operations comply with environmental and regulatory standards and have been good stewards of the environment. It is with full support that the Stillwater County Commissioners support the permitting of the East Boulder Mine – Major Amendment 4 project.

Sincerely,

  
Tyrel Hamilton, Chair

  
Steve Riveland

  
Jeff Ruffatto