

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 7/13/2017 6:00:00 AM

First name: Brent J.

Last name: Crane

Organization: Idaho House of Representatives

Title: Asst. Majority Leader

Comments: I appreciate your willingness to allow for comments via email. This is a great option for our citizens. I have attached as a pdf file my comments regarding Midas Gold. If you need anything else please let me know.

I am writing in support of the Stibnite Gold Project. Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback during the scoping period as part of the Environmental Impact Statement.

The Stibnite Gold Project is a huge opportunity for Idaho and our country. While the site is rich in gold deposits it also has deposits of antimony - a mineral designated critical by the U.S. government. In fact, the Stibnite Gold Project is the largest known deposit of antimony in the country.

This important mineral is used as a metal strengthener and fire retardant. It is used in everything from batteries, textiles, cell phones, plastics and cable sheathing. Right now, the U.S. imports all of its antimony. We have no domestic supply. With all that is currently going on in the world, it is more important than ever that the U.S. not rely solely on foreign countries for minerals of such great importance. It is estimated that if the Stibnite Gold Project moves forward it could provide approximately one-quarter of the American demand for antimony.

I encourage the U.S. Forest Service to move the Stibnite Gold Project forward and adopt the preferred alternatives outlined in Midas Gold Idaho's Plan of Restoration and Operations.