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Comments: Attached to this email you will find the Idaho Farm Bureau's comments regarding the Stibnite Gold Project EIS Scoping.

Please let me know if you have an difficulty accessing the file.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide our comments.

On behalf of the more than 76,000 member families of the Idaho Farm Bureau Federation, I offer these comments for the scoping phase of the Stibnite Gold Project (SGP) Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). For more than 75 years, the Idaho Farm Bureau has been recognized as the leading advocate for private property rights and prosperity which comes through the wise use of and responsible stewardship of our natural resources. We thank the Forest Service for this opportunity.

Our interest in the SGP revolves around the use of these natural resources found in our National Forests. New wealth comes from the ground, and as it is wisely used and managed our nation and communities will continue to prosper. Farm Bureau Policy supports the continuation of mineral extraction in Idaho as long as the appropriate mine reclamation and environmental protections is in place and followed.

The SGP, as proposed by Midas Gold, appears to have the good of the environment in mind. The company's proposals to relocate and reuse spent ore, process and store old tailing piles, restore stream channels and fish passage, reestablish the function of wetlands, replant areas burned by wildfires, amongst several other projects, would greatly improve the current situation and environmental issues that this site currently faces.

Furthermore, the rural communities of Valley County stand to benefit from the increased employment opportunities and wealth generated from this project. The proposed improvements to the road/transportation infrastructure may also improve future access to these areas of the National Forests. We are confident that such measures listed above and as outlined in the project proposal will benefit the overall health and vitality of the forest system, as well as improve the economic situation of the residents and communities in the surrounding areas.

We express our interest to be engaged in, and informed about, the development of the alternatives as part of the EIS process. Idaho Farm Bureau appreciates the Forest Service and Midas Gold for taking the time to educate our members and staff regarding the SGP, and for answering our initial questions. 2

On behalf of the entire membership at the Idaho Farm Bureau, I thank you for your consideration of these comments and we look forward to our further involvement in this EIS. Please contact Braden Jensen at 342-2688 if you have any questions regarding this this topic.