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First name: Carl

Last name: Crabtree

Organization: Idaho State Senate

Title: Senator, District 7

Comments: As an Idaho state senator from the 7th district, I am writing to express my support for Midas Gold Idaho's proposed Stibnite Gold Project. This project provides all Idahoans with a quality and sustainable opportunity to reinvigorate our mining industry and overall economy.

The historic Stibnite Mining District has seen more than 100 years of mining activity, but is in desperate need of rehabilitation. Not only will the Stibnite Gold Project invigorate the mining industry in our state, Midas Gold Idaho has committed to repairing the damage from previous mining activities onsite and to leaving the land in a condition that will thrive for generations to come.

As a member of the Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee (JFAC), I am encouraged by projects that, as proposed, will yield significant economic benefits while also demonstrating measurable outcomes. The Stibnite Gold project fits squarely in this category. An independent study by Highland Economics on the economic impacts of the project found, during construction, the direct impact on the local economy would be \$18.1 million a year in taxes, wages and ancillary benefits. Total local income tax payments over the 20-year project are expected to be more than \$448 million.

This project is the type of long-term economic investment that our state really needs at this time. That is why it is critical Midas Gold Idaho is allowed to proceed forward in this permitting process.

I thank the U.S. Forest Service for its leadership in developing the draft Environmental Impact Statement and I urge you to move forward with Alternative 2 presented by Midas Gold Idaho.