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First name: Bert

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Organization: Idaho State Senate

Title: Idaho State Senator, District 23

Comments: I am a strong advocate for Midas Gold Idaho's Stibnite Gold project and I believe it has incredible potential for the state's economy and our environment. Idaho is blessed with an incredible landscape and rich ecosystems that have supported our communities for decades. Mining, a key industry, has taken its toll in some areas and Midas Gold Idaho recognizes this and is committed to restoring the land using modern, state of the art machinery and practices. This is an expensive endeavor and would not be possible without private investment as it would likely not be undertaken by government authorities using taxpayer dollars -making Midas' proposal crucial to the future of the Stibnite region.

This project helps the Idahoan taxpayer in many ways. There will be considerable tax revenues generated by this project. Schools, local law enforcement and our community governments would see \$300,000 annually from property taxes alone. Based on a 2017 economic study, total local income tax payments during this 20-year project is expected to exceed nearly \$450 million. This type of financial contribution to our communities will be monumental and should be welcomed with open arms.

This project has incredible potential and will have a long lasting positive impact on our communities. That is why I strongly encourage the U.S. Forest Service to pick Alternative 2 outlined by Midas Gold in their proposal and move forward as soon as possible.