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Organization: House of Representatives, State of Idaho

Title: Representative, District 24

Comments: As an Idaho Representative and Chair of the House Education Committee it is my responsibility to ensure Idahoans have ample economic opportunities and the chance to prosper here at home. I write today in support of Midas Gold Idaho's Stibnite Gold Project. This project will be a boon for our state's economy and will bring positive change to citizens statewide.

The Stibnite Gold Project will be a \$1 billion investment in Idaho, bringing in tax revenues, jobs, and environmental restoration Idaho needs. Midas Gold is committed to not only hiring directly from local communities but is anticipating paying their employees substantially above the salaries in industry common in Valley County. Considering Idaho ranks among the lowest in the country for per capita income and wages, this project will offer an opportunity for Idahoans to prosper from our natural resources, while repairing the environment.

Over the duration of the Stibnite Gold Project, an independent economic analysis estimates that the project would generate over \$150 million in state and local tax revenues. Local communities' schools and emergency services would see \$300K annually from property taxes alone. Means to support our schools will provide our children with a better education helping to stabilize the future of Idaho.

The Stibnite Gold Project is a way for Idaho to improve our environment and economy and should not be passed up. I encourage the U.S. Forest Service to accept Alternative 2 as the preferred alternative considered in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement and allow the Stibnite Gold Project to commence as soon as possible.