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First name: Mike

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Organization: House of Representatives, State of Idaho

Title: House Majority Leader

Comments: As a representative of Idaho's 14th district and Majority Leader of the Idaho House of Representatives I am deeply invested in this state's future. Idaho has a vast reserve of untapped resources waiting to be used. Midas Gold Idaho's Stibnite Gold Project is a unique opportunity to utilize these resources while also providing much needed environmental restoration and economic opportunities for all Idahoans. After review of the U.S. Forest Service's draft Environmental Impact Statement of Midas Gold Idaho's Stibnite Gold Project I am writing to voice my support for this project.

The Stibnite Gold Project is significant investment in Idaho's future. The company projects between 500

- 1,000 new jobs to be created over the course of the project and pledged that a significant portion will be Idahoan, especially residents of Valley County or Adams County. In an area where nearly a quarter of the total jobs are in the hospitality and leisure industry, this is a tremendous opportunity to provide skilled mining sector jobs, which on average pay more than four times higher wages than the traditional jobs found there.

Furthermore, Midas Gold Idaho has been generous and forthright in their efforts to reach out and work with our communities. Through the development of the Community Agreement program Midas Gold Idaho has offered local communities a voice in the project's development, allowing them to provide input throughout the process.

I believe that the Stibnite Gold Project has been thoroughly inspected, and I commend the U.S. Forest Service's work throughout this process. Given these encouraging prospects and the clear and transparent work on behalf of the company, I ask that the U.S. Forest Service adopt Midas Gold Idaho's Alternative 2 as outlined in the proposal and move the project forward.