

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/29/2020 6:00:00 AM

First name: Patricia

Last name: Phelps

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the Stibnite Gold Project as part of Midas Gold Idaho's Draft Environmental Impact Statement. Public participation is a huge part of the permitting process and I appreciate the opportunity to share my thoughts.

The Stibnite Gold Project will bring huge economic benefits to Idaho, particularly in Valley County. Midas Gold will directly employ 400-500 employees during construction and operations. Payroll is expected to exceed \$34 million. These numbers do not even capture the indirect jobs. Some third-party estimates show one indirect job will be created every time Midas Gold hires an employee. The project has the potential to have a positive, widespread impact on the state.

As the U.S. Forest Service and other state and federal agencies review the proposed plan and determine the course of action, I encourage you to consider and appropriately weigh the positive benefits Midas Gold will have on Idaho. We need to move this project ahead after the 60-day comment period. Alternative Two truly is a win-win opportunity for Idahoans and the environment.