

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/30/2020 6:00:00 AM

First name: Doug

Last name: Stiles

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the Stibnite Gold Project as part of the public permitting process. I know this project will have a positive impact on the environment, communities surrounding the site and Idahoans.

It is critical that the US government allow projects like Stibnite to proceed. The US is home to abundant critical mineral deposits containing elements society needs in quantities that will only rise in the future. Sourcing these necessary elements from within the US must be done for many reasons. First and foremost, sourcing critical minerals in the US is the least environmentally damaging option for mining. The environmental regulatory regime in the US is second to none thereby ensuring that minerals we all need are provided in a manner that minimizes global environmental impact. Second, sourcing our own raw materials provides economic benefit to local economies. Today, strong local economic activity is needed like never before. Not only would this project provide high-paying local jobs, but it would provide needed tax dollars to governments at all levels. Money that is needed in this time of pandemic crisis.

Midas Gold Idaho wants to invest \$1 billion in our state, bring more than hundreds of jobs to rural Idaho and still provide access to Idaho's public lands. This is the type of project Idaho and the US needs. I highly encourage the U.S. Forest Service to permit this project following alternative two.