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Organization:

Title:

Comments: While I can understand that some may not support the proposed Stibnite Gold Project, I believe their opposition is rooted in a misunderstanding of what a modern-day mining development looks like. I believe that given all the regulations and standards in place today, this project would be carried out safely and to the highest degree of environmental protection.

Modern mining in the United States is subject to some of the toughest regulatory standards and requirements in the world. Midas Gold has been working with local, state, and federal regulators every step of the way to make sure all their I's are dotted and all their T's are crossed. They have even gone above and beyond in some cases, exceeding even what is required under state law.

Another thing folks should keep in mind is that with efforts like the Stibnite Gold Project, there's no risk of Midas Gold or any mining company just up and leaving when they're done and sticking taxpayers with the cost of restoring the land around a site. That is the beauty of financial assurance. Before they can even begin developing Stibnite, Midas Gold has to set aside all the funds it will take to fully restore the site once they're done.

Not only that, but Midas has even committed to providing a more accurate estimate of the funds it will actually take for full reclamation, rather than just going by a flat per-acre fee. According to the Draft Environmental Impact Statement, the financial assurance provided by Midas Gold would adequately fund efforts by the Forest Service to complete full reclamation of the site around the Stibnite Gold Project.

It seems to me that this project will follow all regulations to keep the environment safe while developing Idaho's natural resources. That is why I am asking you to accept Alternative 2.