

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/7/2020 6:00:00 AM

First name: Senator Lori Den

Last name: Hartog

Organization: Idaho State Senate

Title: Senator

Comments: Dear Ms. Jackson,

Born into a family of entrepreneurs and self-starters, I believe having a culture that fosters ingenuity and solutions is essential to a successful community. For that reason, I am encouraged by Midas Gold Idaho's commitment to engaging our communities and looking to Idahoans first when in need of employees and materials for its proposed Stibnite Gold project. I write you today to voice my support for this important proposal and urge the U.S. Forest Service to adopt Alternative 2 as laid out in the draft environmental impact statement.

Midas is also committed to hiring locally and supporting training opportunities for Idahoans by working directly with schools at all levels and the Idaho Department of Labor. Furthermore, critical public focused areas, including our schools and law enforcement, would realize more than \$300,000 a year annually from this project. Such investments have the potential to provide Idaho's next generation with innovative opportunities and a vibrant future.

The Stibnite Gold Project, as proposed by Midas Gold Idaho, is demonstrative of the interest the company has in our state. An independent study conducted by Highland Economics found that during construction alone, the direct impacts on the local economy would be over \$18 million a year in taxes, wages and ancillary benefits.

I urge the U.S. Forest Service to allow Midas Gold to move forward in the permitting process by adopting Alternative 2 so Idahoans can take advantage of this comprehensive investment in our communities and citizenry.

Sincerely,

Senator Lori Den Hartog