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First name: Hank Last name: Welch Organization:

Title:

Comments: To Whom it May Concern,

I have reviewed the Alternative 2 and met with members of Midas Gold Idaho to better understand the company's plans for the Stibnite Gold Project. Below are my comments on the plan to be included in the comment period.

What I like about Midas Gold's plan is that it offers solutions for damage caused by legacy operations and creates a brighter future for the site. For example, Midas is cleaning up old mining waste from projects dating back to the WWII era. I know that Alternative 2 is a holistic proposal that addresses existing issues and protects against their reoccurrence. Tailings are just one issue related to mining projects, and Midas is addressing them directly. Under Alternative 2, the company will construct a long-term storage facility for future waste from mining operations. The facility is designed to withstand an earthquake up to 6.5 on the Richter scale. I feel confident the company has considered multiple scenarios in the design, so it will be able to operate continuously with no problems in order to protect the environment.

This Stibnite Gold Project is a huge opportunity for Idaho. I am grateful for the tools the Forest Service has provided to review the DEIS and learn more about the project. These tools have given Idahoans sufficient time to comment. Please permit alternative 2 and continue moving the project forward so our citizens can reap the positive impacts.