

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/21/2020 6:00:00 AM

First name: Andy

Last name: Lewis

Organization: Western States CAT

Title:

Comments: I am writing to express my views on Midas Gold Idaho's Stibnite Gold Project. The opportunity presented by the Stibnite Gold Project is compelling for many reasons and it is a project I am committed to seeing come to fruition.

This project, especially alternative 2, is in line with Idaho values and our way of life. As an Idahoan and a member of the mining industry, I know Idahoans have long understood that using the land and protecting the land can go hand-in-hand. Alternative 2 blends improving public lands with building a robust business and it is an approach I encourage. From repairing a legacy mine site to developing roads and power infrastructure, the \$1 billion investment the company would make in Idaho will benefit the entire state. Companies like Western State CAT would not only benefit economically, but it would also create spin off jobs creating hundreds of other indirect jobs for Idahoans.

This project will also be the only domestically mined source of antimony, a mineral that is critical to our national defense, aerospace and green technology. Today, China is the leading source of antimony for the United States. With a growing demand due to new and emerging technologies it is imperative the United States take control of our mineral resources.

It is with this knowledge that I encourage the U.S. Forest Service to continue to move the project forward and permit the site using alternative 2 as the guide.