

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/23/2020 6:00:00 AM

First name: William

Last name: Craig

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Ms. Linda Jackson,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide my feedback as part of Midas Gold Idaho's public permitting process.

Today at the site, leftover mining waste is leaching metals into groundwater and hurting wildlife and local communities. Midas has been monitoring the site for the last decade and discovered there are high levels of arsenic and antimony in the water, far beyond what is acceptable for drinking water standards. Of course, these problems were created long ago by historical mining operations and not by Midas Gold. However, the company has a plan to address these problems. Alternative 2 offers viable solutions to improve the site. It creates a plan to clean up existing tailings and store future tailings in a state-of-the-art storage facility. I trust Midas to safely reprocess and store the tailings because their facility contains several important design factors to prevent against breaches, leaks, or excessive water accumulation. A company that has made the commitment to reestablish an area that is in sore need of a thorough clean-up and provide for sustainability in the future is one that should be supported in all of its efforts, because there are too few companies who make this type of change for future generations.

I urge you to accept Midas Gold's plan as outlined under alternative two. The U.S. Forest Service has provided the public with helpful virtual tools and materials to submit meaningful comments on the project within the allotted timeframe. It is time to move this project forward.