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Comments: I am writing to express my views on Midas Gold Idaho's Stibnite Gold Project. Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the Stibnite Gold Project as part of Midas Gold Idaho's Draft Environmental Impact Statement. The plans and technical basis presented by the Stibnite Gold Project is compelling for many reasons and it is a project I am committed to seeing come to fruition.

The site is particularly unique having a gold deposits along with antimony, which was recently deemed a critical mineral by the federal government. As you are likely aware antimony is used as a fire retardant and metal strengthener in many everyday products like batteries, textiles, cell phones, plastics and cable sheathing. Currently, the U.S. does not have a producing domestic antimony mine. The Stibnite mine has the potential to provide about one-quarter of Americas current antimony demand. It is critical America continues to be on a progressive and responsible path to become self-sustaining for our mineral needs and not reliant on other countries.

Over the past decade the property has been extensively assessed by very qualified teams of specialists to set forth technically achievable plans to mitigate existing historic un-reclaimed lands while developing the property into an operating mine utilizing technically sounds operating plans and facilities. Midas Gold is the only company with a feasible plan to mitigate the long-standing legacy issues at the site, such as blocked fish passage and degraded water quality. By joining the mitigation of un-reclaimed historic disturbances and a new mining operations, this is a win-win project for society and the environment.

After reviewing the DEIS, I believe Alternative 2 is the best option moving forward. It limits the project footprint, keeps traffic away from key waterways, improves water quality and is economically feasible. The project would also provide key economic benefits to the region, such as family-wage jobs, a boost to the local tax base, and providing critical minerals to our nation's manufacturing needs. In addition, timely environmental restoration of historic mined lands would be completed without burdening the tax payers, which would not likely happen for several more decades without this approved plan.

I feel confident Midas Gold will follow through on its operational commitments and conditions with a Record of Decision that will be financially supported in accordance with federal and state financial assurance regulations. The regulations will require Midas Gold to set aside the necessary funds for restoration and reclamation before any mining begins.

The comment period has been extended once already. Considering this project has been in the permitting and research stage for at least a decade, it should not be delayed further. Further delays will only delay Idaho and America from recognizing the benefits of the project. I encourage the U.S. Forest Service to issue a Record of Decision in November 2020 in favor of the project proceeding as soon as possible.