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Organization: USAF

Title: Lieutenant Colonel-Retired

Comments: Attention payette national forest supervisor,

Midas Gold Idaho's Stibnite Gold Project presents Idaho, particularly rural Idaho, with a huge economic and environmental opportunity. I am writing to encourage you to permit the project as quickly as possible.

Alternative 2 provides a higher degree of safety for both the location of a new tailings storage facility as well the road options for accessing the site. Under this alternative, Midas Gold will locate its tailings storage facility in an area that is already impacted by past mining activity, whereas Alternative 3 would place it in an untouched area of the site. This unnecessarily exposes more of the surrounding environment to mining operations. For road safety, Alternative 2 reduces the risk of potential spills, minimizes sediment runoff to waterways, and avoids winter avalanche site whereas Alternative 4 would keep the access road where it is, adjacent to the river.

Thank you for the thorough review of the Stibnite Gold Project. I urge you to now move forward and permit the mine using alternative 2, so Midas Gold can put Americans back to work.

Respectfully,

Richard S Haas, Lieutenant Colonel, USAF (Retired)

Name: Richard S Haas, Lieutenant Colonel, USAF