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First name: Joseph

Last name: Sylvester

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Payette National Forest,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Stibnite Gold Project as part of the U.S. Forest Service's permitting process. This part of the permitting process gives the public the opportunity to review and submit comments in regards to the Plan of Operation submitted.

I attended a presentation sponsored by Midas Gold and then followed up with Dale Kerner to find the primary concerns of the public. He forwarded to me, 4 separate links from the Idaho Conservation Organization, Idaho Rivers, and Earthworks to give an example of what the Stibnite Project is trying to mitigate. These links illustrated their concerns for the environment and specifically the river system and potential for contamination. It is my understanding that Midas Gold has met with some of these groups and reviewed their concerns and have come up with the best available technology available to mitigate their concerns. However, the "What If's" will always be present and they did their best to address these upfront.

Midas Gold realized that there are many environmental hurdles that would have to be resolved and have been working with the Federal and State Regulators/Organizations for many years to reduce and mitigate these impacts. I am impressed with their transparency and the willingness to meet with concerned citizens, Counties, Non Governmental Organizations, Town Councils, to openly discuss the mine and the impacts of their project to the area. The preexisting environmental mine legacies that Midas Gold is willing to take responsibility for is huge, while maintaining current environmental standards. To have the mine site reclaimed to higher environmental standards is a win-win for all.

I have not had the opportunity to enjoy the back county of Valley County but I have heard many stories of the River since my co worker used to guide rafting trips during his college summers down the River and my son in law has back packed in this area and shared the pictures with us. I hope to be able to enjoy this area in the near future.

I understand that this project will be an important project for Valley County and will have a significant impact on the community, county, and State of Idaho. If the Stibnite Gold Project goes into production, Idaho would see a huge economic benefit.

Midas Gold has committed to invest in the state, will have a large contribution in state and local taxes and make improvements to roads and power grid near the site. The company has stated that they will hire locally when possible and plans to provide over 1,000 jobs for Idahoans throughout the life of the project. Midas Gold salaries will be higher than the local salary and will have a positive trickle down effect to the local community and economy. Some economist state that for every \$1 earned that it is circulated 5 to 7 times which will be a large boost to the surrounding economy.

I want to make sure the Stibnite Gold Project is done the right way and I strongly believe that they have shown their willingness to work with the public and Regulators to make sure the area is a better place than when they started.

Thank you for your time, consideration and for allowing the public time to comment on the Stibnite Gold Project. In my opinion, Alternative Two is the best option in the DEIS.

Most Respectfully,

Name: Joseph Sylvester