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First name: Kay
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Organization:
Title:
Comments: Attached please find my letter of support of Midas Gold and the Stibnite Gold Project.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I am a fourth generation Valley County residence and was born in Stibnite, ID. My husband and I both grew up and raised a family in Donnelly, ID. We have both served on the Donnelly City Council. I retired this year after 33 years as District Manager of the local Valley Soil and Water Conservation District (Valley SWCD). I have some background in efforts made to improve and maintain our Valley County natural resources. For example, Valley SWCD has worked with a wide range of stakeholders to coordinate with state, federal, local entities, landowners and volunteers to implement Best Management Practices (BMPs) with one of Valley SWCD goals being to improve the water quality of Lake Cascade over the last years at a cost of $20+ million.

Midas Gold Idaho has done their homework to develop a restoration plan after 5 years of environmental study, analyzing and seeking local input from those impacted to determine the best alternatives. The Stibnite Gold Project takes an area mined for over 100 years and uses modern mining capabilities and a sustainable approach to restore the environment.

The Stibnite Gold Project provides the means to:

* Reclaim and protect 10 miles of stream restoration and riparian habitat.
* Repair or build 350 acres of wetland and provide 95 acres of open water habitat.
* Reforest thousands of acres of previously burned areas, reducing sedimentation to help increase biological activity to improve fish and wildlife populations.
* Reprocess historic tailings and encapsulate the tailings into a properly engineered, modern tailings storage facility reducing the risk of metal releases to groundwater and streams.
* Coordinating with the Forest Service and Valley County Road Department to upgrade and connect two existing roads to move traffic away from the major waterways would improve sediment control and help stabilize riparian areas.

Midas Gold has given financial assurances to cover the third part costs for closure and site reclamation taking place early in the project - saving taxpayers millions of dollars.

They have already contributed to the local economy. In addition, the Stibnite Gold Project during construction and operations is projected to employ 400-500 with annual payroll ranging from $34-42 million providing needed year-round income to our local communities.

I have seen first hand Midas Gold financial support and involvement to our Donnelly community through their

donations of turkeys for the Donnelly Food Pantry Christmas food boxes and most recently their financial assistance to install new playground equipment in the Donnelly City Park. They are a valued part and addition to our community.