

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 8/25/2020 6:00:00 AM

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Comments: I sincerely appreciate the opportunity to comment on Midas Gold Idaho's Plan of Restoration and Operations at the Stibnite mineral prospect. Precious metals like rare earth minerals and industrial materials are where you find them. They are associated within a provenance of unique geological characteristics. If the occurrence of such minerals was common place they wouldn't be valuable and would have been easily extracted from the earth's crust many years ago. Of course, economics alters the viability of the search in many areas. It is important to note when precious metals or hydrocarbons are discovered and extracted that is new value coming into the world.. It is traded and used to make other items beneficial to mankind. It is wealth that has never been in circulation before.

I believe in the axiom that most of what we have as a society comes from a hole in the ground and to that i add removal must be done as environmentally benign as possible. I do believe Midas is committed to and can restore, revegetate, recontour, reseed, reforest, reclaim, and rehabilitate the area from which minerals will be extracted. In this way the current generation can utilize the new wealth for its benefits and upon reclamation future generations can have the restored pristine nature of the woodlands and drainages for their enjoyment. Midas has pledged to restore the attributed to past mining practices and be accountable for reclamation going forward. It will be important for them to demonstrate they have the expertise and financial capability to do so.

Significant strides have been made in the science and technology involved in exploration and development of minerals and that same science and technology progress allows us to do a more thorough job of reclaiming the surficial and subsurface changes occurring as a result of extraction. Midas is committed to bring the latest advances to their entire work product. As a geologist and long-time Idaho resident I heartily recommend the Forest Service approve the plans for development and reclamation Midas has requested.