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Comments: I have been closely following Midas Gold Idaho's plans for several years. I am excited to finally have the opportunity to comment on their Draft EIS. Midas Gold Idaho presents a huge opportunity for the Gem State.

Midas Gold Idaho wants to invest \$1 billion in our state, bring more than 1,000 jobs to rural Idaho and contribute millions of dollars in taxes. This is the type of project our state needs. It would cost the company roughly approximately \$230 million each year to operate and contribute significant local and state tax revenue. As Midas Gold Idaho grows, it wants to help Idaho families grow along with it. The company has made a commitment to hire locally whenever possible. And they are going to help prepare Idahoans for these well-paying jobs by providing job training. The average salary of Midas Gold Idaho employees is anticipated to be \$80,000. Many individuals in this region have had to depend on seasonal work, having a steady paycheck could change many lives. Alternative 2 of the project will also help improve the environment. It will reduce long-term metal loading in the ground and surface water by reprocessing historic tailings (DEIS 4.9), improve productivity of fish species in the area by opening up access to more habitat upstream (DEIS 4.12), provide a net gain of 9.3 km of volitionally accessible intrinsic potential habitat for Chinook Salmon (table 4.12-29) and reprocess old tailings waste, would lead to long-term reduction in metal loading in ground and surface water (DEIS 4.9).

I appreciate your time and thoughtfulness. For the reasons I stated in my letter above, please permit the Stibnite Gold Project using alternative 2 and let Idahoans see the benefits of this important project.