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Organization: House of Representatives, State of Idaho

Title: Legislative District 28

Comments: As representative from Idaho's 28th Legislative district, I am committed to ensuring a prosperous future for our state and its peoples. After careful review of the U.S. Forest Service's draft Environmental Impact Statement for Midas Gold Idaho's Stibnite Gold Project, I strongly urge the approval of the project because of the many economic and environmental benefits that would follow.

The Stibnite Gold Project will drastically increase state and local tax revenues at a total of more than \$150 million during the lifecycle of the project. These are critical tax dollars that can be put towards public works and government programs, including law enforcement and schools. For community members like myself with a focus on education our children's education can is a priority. The Midas Gold project will contribute significantly to that objective.

Not only is the project certain to back significant economic windfall, it will also strengthen the long-term wellbeing of the Idaho's environment and the Salmon River. Midas Gold is committed to cleaning up the damage created by previous mining projects before the rigorous regulatory standards in place today.

These damages include sedimentation deposits in rivers and streams, increased erosion, and the destruction of fish habitats. By allowing Midas Gold to repair expensive environmental legacy issues, we have a chance to repair the environment using private investment with no additional burden to taxpayers.

The Stibnite Gold Project will be of immense benefit to our state for many years to come. I urge the U.S. Forest Service to accept the Alternative 2 as outlined in the plan submitted by Midas Gold, and move this project along in a timely fashion and allow it to move forward.