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First name: Scott
Last name: Grow
Organization: Idaho State Senate, State of Idaho
Title: Legislative District 14
Comments: As the senator for Idaho's 14 Legislative district, I urge you to adopt Alternative 2 presented by Midas Gold Idaho for their Stibnite Gold Project. After reviewing the agency's draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) I believe Midas Gold is committed to providing investments to boost our economy while repairing the environmental degradation left behind from previous mining activity.

If allowed to proceed, the Stibnite Gold Project will be a $1 billion investment in Idaho. During the course of its 20-year lifespan, an independent study estimated that the project would generate more than $150 million in state and local tax revenues. Property taxes adding up to at least $300,000 annually would be added to local community budgets funding our loca l schools and community projects. These are major economic contributions to Valley County and the state.

The project plans to hire hundreds of local employees and hundreds more t hat would move to the region, further stimulating the economy. Valley County ranks among the highest in the state for unemployment, this project would provide a direct injection into t he local economy for over a decade.

In addition, Midas plans to use environmentally friendly machinery to restore fish habitats and the environmental legacies present in the stibnite area, at no cost to the. taxpayer.

I urge the U.S. Forest Service to accept Alternative 2 as your proposed alternative and let Idahoans and our environment benefit from the investment t his company is ready to bring to the Gem State.