Data Submitted (UTC 11): 8/28/2020 6:00:00 AM
First name: Gary
Last name: Collins
Organization: House of Representatives, State of Idaho
Title: House Revenue and Taxiation Committee Chair
Comments: As an Idaho State Representative, I'm dedicated to my constituents and work tirelessly to ensure they have plenty of opportunities to be successful. Today I am writing in favor of the Midas Gold Idaho Stibnite Gold Project proposal. I commend the Forest Service for its efforts in evaluating the project thus far, and hope you will consider the following comments throughout the rest of your review process.

The Stibnite Gold Project will create economic opportunities our state that will help build a stronger future for Idaho. Midas Gold plans hire locally and those jobs will pay more than four times what some of the leading industries in Valley County pay now. Additionally, Midas Gold employees will receive technical job training, strengthening our workforce and providing opportunities for families that will hopefully translate to future generations. Local impacts on the economy from Midas' job creation is estimated to be $18 million per year during the construction phase alone and has potential to generate over $150 million in state and local tax revenues over its lifespan.

The Stibnite Gold Project is also a $1 billion investment in Idaho. An independent study found that the project will generate more than $150 million in state and local tax revenues. The entire state wi ll reap the benefits the project brings to our economy. In addition, public works like our schools and law enforcement are estimated to receive $300,000 annually from property taxes alone. Increased economic investments in our communities has the ability to attract new businesses further stabilizing Idaho's economy.

Midas Gold Idaho's Stibnite Gold Project provides Idaho undeniable opportunities. I encourage the U.S. Forest Service to adopt Alternative 2 laid out by Midas Gold in their proposal and al low th is project to proceed in a timely fashion.