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First name: Chad

Last name: Allen

Organization: Western States CAT

Title:

Comments: I join the many Idahoans in voicing my support for the Midas Gold Idaho Stibnite Gold Project. I truly believe that Midas Gold's Plan of Restoration and Operations outlines a clear vision to bring economic prosperity to our region in addition to a multitude of environmental improvements.

As highlighted in the PRO submitted to the U.S. Forest Service, the Stibnite Gold Project will inject hundreds of millions of dollars into Idaho's economy, bring hundreds of jobs into the state and contribute significant local and state tax revenue. The company will also prioritize hiring and sourcing locally throughout the project and it is committed to helping communities respond to growth in a manner that is sustainable and responsible. Given the economic hardship that our country has been through the past few months, this kind of economic stimulus to Idaho should be welcomed and its permits should be approved as soon as possible.

During construction of the mine, the project would directly employ 600 to 700 people with annual payroll ranging from \$42 million to 49 million. After that and during operations, Midas Gold anticipates providing approximately 500 direct jobs for the community with an annual payroll ranging from \$48 million to \$51 million. Based on comparable operations in Idaho, compensation would average approximately \$80,000 a year as compared to \$35,000 currently in the area surrounding the project, bringing much needed jobs and income to our residents.

In addition to jobs and salaries, it's estimated that over the life of the project, total life-of-mine direct, indirect and induced taxes from the Stibnite Gold Project are estimated at \$506 million at the federal level and \$218 million in state and local taxes. Midas Gold alone would pay an estimated \$329 million in federal corporate income taxes and \$86 million in state corporate income taxes. As a CAT employee, I echo the many others in welcoming this kind of investment to our state and our region.

I thank you for considering my letter and allowing me to comment on the Stibnite Project and I urge you to adopt Alternative 2 proposed by Midas Gold Idaho's Plan of Restoration and Operations.