



WE'RE READY WHEN YOU ARE.

U.S. Forest Service, Payette National Forest
Attn: Linda Jackson, Payette Forest Supervisor
500 North Mission Street
McCall, ID 83638

I am writing today on behalf of all members of the community who will benefit from the approval of the Stibnite Gold Project proposed by Midas Gold Idaho. As a CAT employee, I believe that the opportunities this project could provide would be monumental for our economy as well as the sustained longevity of our community. It would be against the wishes of the thousands who would benefit from this project deny Midas Gold Idaho's plan.

The Stibnite Gold Project places our community at the center of all plans and ensures that there will be economic prosperity for those in need of work. There would be 1,000 jobs immediately available to be filled just as construction begins, not including the additional jobs required to operate the mine while it is open and then once it is in reclamation. Especially in our current economic state, these high-paying jobs would help for families to put food on their tables and improve the standard of living for thousands thanks to the work the Stibnite Gold project provides.

Building on the jobs that would be offered to our community, the tax benefits that our local communities would be able to access is critical for keeping children safe and providing them with a quality education. The Stibnite Gold Project would inject our local economy with \$300,000 per year, not including the nearly \$100 million in state taxes. Midas Gold Idaho is making a commitment to our local community and providing resources that we would otherwise be unable to claim.

I speak for my community when I strongly urge you to approve Alternative 2 proposed by Midas Gold Idaho in their Plan of Restoration and Operations.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jeff Branen', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Jeff Branen