

America desperately needs antimony. This mineral is used in munitions, large-capacity storage batteries, fire retardants and more. Currently, we are entirely dependent on foreign countries to provide this mineral, which is why I am writing in support of the Stibnite Gold Project. This project can stop our import reliance on antimony.

I support the Stibnite Gold Project. It presents the best opportunity to give this area of Idaho's backcountry the environmental attention it needs, while also securing a domestic source of the critical mineral antimony. Water quality at Stibnite has been negatively impacted by legacy mining activity for years. There are elevated levels of arsenic and antimony. Fortunately, the SDEIS concluded surface water concentrations of these elements downstream of the site would be reduced during mining and post-closure due to water treatment. Water quality at Stibnite will not improve unless Perpetua Resources is allowed to move forward with its plan.

Perpetua Resources wants to invest \$1 billion in our state, bring more than 1,000 jobs to rural Idaho and still provide access to Idaho's public lands. This is the type of project our state needs. After reviewing the project for six years, I highly encourage the U.S. Forest Service to move the project forward with the improvements laid out in the SDEIS.

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