

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the plans for the Stibnite Gold Project. Over the last year, I've had the opportunity to hear about the project, I have heard from members of Perpetua Resources and observe how the company has lived out its mission as it has grown. It is with this knowledge that I encourage you to move the project forward.

Antimony is a critical mineral that is not mined anywhere else in the United States. Our nation is largely dependent upon China and Russia for this vital mined resource. The Stibnite Project, with its abundant antimony deposit, will lessen our dependence on foreign sources. That is clearly in the best interest of the United States.

I support the preferred alternative because it will help minimize the impacts of mine traffic and reduce the risk of accidents and spills. According to the SDEIS, less than 10 miles of the Burntlog Route is within a half mile of a waterway compared to 27 miles on Johnson Creek. The Johnson Creek Route would put our community and fish at greater risk if there was ever an accident or spill while Perpetua was traveling to site. I want to keep traffic as far away from rivers, streams and creeks as possible.

I appreciate your time and thoughtfulness in the review process. The U.S. Forest Service has not cut any corners over the past 6 years analyzing the project and I've appreciated the opportunities to provide feedback. For the reasons I stated in my letter above, please permit the Stibnite Gold Project.

Bret Halley