



## Idaho State Senate State of Idaho

January 9, 2023

U.S. Forest Service, Payette National Forest  
Attn: Linda Jackson, Payette Forest Supervisor  
500 North Mission Street, Building 2  
McCall, ID 83638

**RE: Authorize the Perpetua Resources Stibnite Gold Project**

Ms. Linda Jackson,

In my capacity as a public official, I am aware of how crucial it is to provide our remote rural communities with opportunities for growth. I back the Perpetua Resources Stibnite Gold Project for a variety of reasons, including this one. It is obvious that this project is economically and environmentally essential for Idaho's future after reading the company's 2021 Modified Mine Plan (MMP) and the Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (SDEIS).

The Stibnite Gold Project offers a rare chance to restore a region that has been harmed by mining from previous operators. The Project will enhance water quality, fish habitat, and wildlife habitat. There were few environmental laws and safeguards to ensure restoration when miners started their projects in this area. Perpetua Resources has presented a plan today that would restore and revitalize this area using cutting-edge, modern tools and techniques, enhancing the environment, and fostering a strong ecosystem in the area for future generations of Idahoans.

Additionally, this project will significantly increase tax receipts and employment. The Stibnite Gold Project will bring in more than \$150 million in state and local taxes over a 20-year period, including over 600 jobs for Valley County residents. In order to make commuting to the project site convenient for local Idaho residents, Perpetua has even gone as far as to provide housing for their employees. Our teachers, students, and parents will benefit as a result of these tax revenues being used to finance Idaho schools.

As a retired Naval aviator, I know the importance of having a domestic supply of antimony for our national defense and to protect our servicemen. The Stibnite Gold Project would allow for the first domestically mined source of antimony. Our reliance on foreign countries antimony makes our nation vulnerable. A grave error would be to not support this project. Particularly in light of the Department of Defense's prior indications of interest in the project. The company received a \$200,000 SBIR grant from the DoD in September to investigate whether the antimony at Stibnite can satisfy military requirements.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to comment. In order to begin producing the antimony our country requires, I would strongly encourage the U.S. Forest Service to give approval for the 2021 MMP.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Chuck Winder".

Senator Chuck Winder  
Idaho State Senate President Pro Tempore