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Comments: I am pleased to see that the proposed Stibnite Gold Project creates the opportunity for Midas Gold to clean up a heavily disturbed site and to reclaim historically impacted areas by planting trees, restoring stream channels, wetlands and fisheries, and setting the stage to create a sustainable ecosystem in an otherwise terribly disturbed terrain.

After 100 years of mining in the Stibnite Mining District, most of which took place long before environmental regulations and awareness of sustainable practices, the area needs to be cleaned up. All of the aspects of modern mining, and of modern mine permitting, bring funding, equipment, and workforce to leave the site better than it is today.

Currently, the East Fork of the South Fork of the Salmon River flows directly into an old mining pit. The Stibnite Gold Project proposes to reclaim the pit and restore the natural flow and gradient of the river for the first time since the 1930s. I feel it is important to hard working people of Idaho and the U.S. that the cost of environmental restoration can be incorporated into an extraction and restoration project such as Midas Gold proposes. Without redeveloping the site, there is little chance environmental restoration would ever occur.

The recovery and sale domestic antimony reduces U.S. dependence on foreign imports, in a time when there is no U.S. antimony stockpile. Antimony is considered critical and integral to national defense, aerospace and energy industries, including alternative energy applications such as wind and solar facilities, transmission lines and for batteries.

As proposed, the Stibnite Gold Project expects to directly employ 400-500 workers, adding an annual payroll of up to $42 million to Valley County, Idaho. Midas Gold estimates that the project will also create an estimated 320-400 indirect job. This provides opportunities for Idahoans to stay in Idaho in good paying jobs, or to attract new residents to Valley County.

In my lifetime, I have seen a lot change in how the land and environment is treated during exploration and for the life of a mining project. Today, the environmental sensitivities of the area are taken into account from the beginning and plans for site restoration are incorporated into all aspects of the project. For the Stibnite Gold Project, lands that were not reclaimed in the last century can be treated and returned to productive use. As citizens, we have the opportunity to rewrite the site's legacy.

I support Midas Gold Idaho Incorporated's plan for the Stibnite Gold Project.