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First name: Steve
Last name: Clements
Organization:
Title:
Comments: Please find the letter attached regarding comment.

My wife and I have made Valley County our primary home for the past 6 years, I am a native Idahoan. My father, now 86, lived at the Stibnite site in the mid-1940s while my grandfather worked mining tungsten. As a 4th generation Idahoan I am writing to support the Midas Gold Stibnite Project.

The projects positive economic impact to our county is a generational opportunity that will provide hundreds of well paid jobs and downstream lifestyle benefits for many others. This project has credible, sustainable financial backing and is not another "Tamarack". Year-round employment opportunities are created that will assist in improving our seasonal cyclical economic challenges.

Midas will clean up the sites environmental sins of the past caused by decades of unchecked ecological management neglect by others. It is extremely unlikely the federal or state governments will ever address this super fund site due to the remote nature of the property and expense.

As a former senior manager of a multi-national concrete, mineral aggregates and hard rock mining company and an owner of a Boise based concrete and aggregates business I understand the environmental compliance issues well. During a tour at the Stibnite site a Midas employee pointed out that a minor hydraulic fluid spill occurred when a hydraulic line ruptured on a front end loader. He followed up by explaining the clean- up procedure. I pointed out that they had gone way beyond what is required to be compliant. The employee response; "that is the way we operate". The monetary and criminal penalties for non-compliance are far too substantial for the applicant not to operate within the conditions of approval. Midas also has a world class culture regarding employee safety, very impressive.

The Midas Stibnite Project will leave the property in much better condition for future generations. A few examples: 1) Restoration of the fish passage that has been blocked for over eight decades due to the creation of the "Glory Hole". 2) Upgrading the Burntlog Road to handle traffic, a suggestion that came from the residents of Yellow Pine as the preferred route. The route provides safe passage to the area and reduces silts in Johnson Creek / E. Fork of the South Fork. 3) Clean-up of historical waste heaps that discharge sediment from past mining into the river system.

This project is a win-win for all stake holders in our community. My support of the project is driven by an objective understanding of the long term benefit we gain from a successful project.