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Organization:

Title:

Comments: To whom it may concern,

I am writing this letter to express my concern over the proposed stibnite mine near the South Fork of the Salmon. As a resident of Idaho and a kayaker that enjoys the waters of the Salmon rivers, I have several issues with the mine:

(1) Vague and manipulative rhetoric in the planning document produced by Midas mining. Midas presents the mine as an opportunity for "environmental restoration", but it is an undisputed fact that the need for restoration comes from previous mining projects. Mining is not the solution for mining. They also do not specify what "modern" mining techniques they are using to supposedly minimize damage to the ecosystem. Furthermore, their claims of "avoiding and minimizing environmental harm" cannot be quantitatively evaluated--minimize relative to what?

(2) There are no mechanisms for specific inclusion of tribal governments, or a measure of impacts specific to Native American people or tribes who utilize this region for fishing and hunting. Specific tribes are not even named in this document.

(3) Midas claims they will protect certain unnamed plants, fish, and birds, but provide no specifics for how they will achieve this for the many species in the area. Antimony mining is particularly harmful to small mammal populations yet this animal population is never mentioned. This is a suspicious omission.

The planning document Midas has produced for the general public is a dense collection of 216 vaguely worded pages that doesn't even go to the trouble to name the tribes or tribal lands it would affect. Ordinary community members like myself have to take days to sift through it. Because of this I request we extend the comment period so the community can have a voice. Thank you.