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Comments: Thank you for allowing me to join the many other Idahoans in expressing my support for Midas Gold Idaho's Stibnite Gold Project and the company's modified Plan of Restoration and Operations submitted to the U.S. Forest Service. Midas Gold has provided the community with all the necessary information regarding its mining operations and after reviewing the draft environmental impact statement (EIS) released by the agency, I feel confident that their plan exceeds all environmental and safety standards.

One thing important to community members is access to the Stibnite area. Midas Gold has planned to ensure safe access to the Stibnite site by upgrading current roads, utilizing existing routes wherever possible, enhancing traffic flows, and protecting our natural environment. For example, upgrading Burntlog Road will allow the company to stay away from major fish-bearing waterways, avoid known avalanche sites in the winter, reduce potential conflicts with other drivers on South Fork and Johnson Creek Roads, avoid potential spills and keep sediment out of the waterways. Additionally, many of these improvements will be self-funded.

In addition to the many traffic safety provisions Midas Gold has outlined, the company has also planned to construct a 21st century Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) that is designed to meet or exceed the most stringent design factor-of-safety set forth in Idaho regulations. The TSF was strategically proposed for a site selected so that the surrounding hillsides will constrain 90% of the perimeter of the facility. The remaining 10% of the perimeter will be retained by a dam and further buttressed by an additional 65 million tons of development rock buttressed against the dam over the life of the project. The buttress more than doubles the factor of safety versus the State requirements Midas Gold must meet.

In addition, Midas Gold will divert clean water coming from Meadow Creek and nearby tributaries around the TSF in surface diversions designed to convey the 100-year peak runoff in order to minimize any interaction between the tailings facility and clean water. The objective is to keep clean water clean.

Given just these few examples, I feel that Midas Gold Idaho has done its due-diligence and has satisfied or exceeded the required regulations needed for the Stibnite Gold Project. I urge you to approve any permits necessary for this project and adopt Alternative 2 outlined in their modified Plan of Restoration and Operations.