

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/24/2020 6:00:00 AM

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Comments: Thank you for this opportunity to convey my support for Midas Gold Idaho's proposed Stibnite Gold Project. I would urge you to approve its permit application. Their collaborative efforts and ongoing transparency have armed the community with the information needed to assess the project with open eyes. As one of those community members, I appreciate the respect the company has shown for Valley County, its residents and the state of Idaho. Having personally interacted with them for over 4 years, I am confident in their good intentions and ability to do what they say they will do.

From the moment they first expressed interest in the Stibnite mining district, Midas Gold has gone to great lengths to listen and collaborate with the community. Rather than involve the community in a tangential way, the company has worked hard to ensure local residents are an integral part of the process to make the Stibnite Gold Project a reality.

My understanding is, that over the last decade, Midas Gold has spent millions of dollars studying the historic Stibnite mining district and has consulted the community every step of the way as it hones the project's proposal. Their openness is a welcome change from how many other companies-mining or otherwise approach working with local residents. That transparency was exemplified when Midas Gold offered tours of the site that allowed people to see first-hand its condition and learn from employees details of the company's plans and goals. So far, more than 500 people have taken advantage of this opportunity. If this doesn't embody transparency, I don't know what does.

Once the project moves forward, and indeed it should, the formation of the Stibnite Advisory Council demonstrates that the community will continue to be involved throughout the duration of the Stibnite Gold Project. The council was created courtesy of the community agreement that Midas Gold entered into with eight local cities and allows community representatives to give the company feedback from residents and in turn, convey important project information back to their communities.

It's clear that Midas Gold has a commitment to community and they are further demonstrating that commitment by investing around \$1 billion in Idaho through the Stibnite Gold Project, creating hundreds of well-paying jobs and paying millions in taxes to the state.

This project is a win-win for the local community and for Idaho. I would encourage the U.S. Forest Service to adopt Alternative 2 laid out by Midas Gold in their proposal.