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Title:

Comments: We are the children of Stibnite.

Our mothers and fathers worked at the site during the peak of the mining district's long history. They unearthed tungsten and antimony. According to the Munitions Board, the work they did at site shortened World War II by a year and saved a million American lives.

Because of our parents' important work, we spent our childhood years at the site. We fished in the rivers, went to school together in a one room classroom and celebrated community events in the dance hall. Stibnite made us into who we are today. Being at Stibnite instilled in us a sense of adventure, it taught us hard work and showed us the power of being part of something bigger than ourselves.

When Stibnite was our home it was alive with activity. People worked hard. Every day when they went to work, they wanted to do their part to help protect our county. We look back on those year at Stibnite with fond memories and pride.

When the wars were over and our parents' job were done, our homes were packed up and our families moved on. But the work started generations ago is not yet finished.

The story of Stibnite is not over because of how our parents left the site. They were amazing miners, did amazing things for our country and followed the letter of the law but back in those days mining and reclamation did not go hand in hand. The environmental regulations and standards we are used to today simply did not exist back then. And, quite frankly, our country's expectations for how industry should care for the land was drastically different than it is today. If there had been environmental standards, our parents would have followed them. However, there were no standards and there are legacies at Stibnite that need to be addressed because of it.

Midas Gold Idaho has identified an opportunity and developed a project our parents would have been proud to work on. The company has a plan to go back and mine Stibnite, while also addressing legacy issues from the past. This project would produce the only domestically mined source of antimony in the United States. Antimony is still just as vital to supporting our national security as it was during World War II. Today, it also has new applications in the energy sector and aerospace industries. Having access to this mineral at home will help our nation secure its future.

As the children of Stibnite, we understand better than anyone that mining created the problems facing Stibnite today. However, we also know mining practices, and requirements on how to restore the land; have evolved from what they were generations ago. The American mining industry faces the toughest regulatory oversight and scrutiny in the world. Under current laws, no mining can occur at site until all the funding needed to properly reclaim and restore the land is set aside, guaranteeing Stibnite will not be abandoned and it will finally get the attention it deserves.

When our parents set out to mine at Stibnite, their goal was to help produce the minerals our country needed to win the war. They met their goal. Midas Gold Idaho has a different goal. Yes, they want to help secure our nation's mineral future like the generations before them. But they also want to prove mining and the environment can work together. They want to leave the site better than they found it. We believe they will be able to meet their goal - just like our parents. Stibnite deserves a new chapter in its history. In this chapter, mining should be brought back to site, hundreds of Jobs should be created, the site should be restored and Midas Gold should be given the chance to prove mining is best done here at home in America.

The Stibnite Mine was my home for over 11 years. I started the 1st grade and graduated the 8th grade in 1954. I have been aware of all the activities over the years after the mine closed in 1952 and during its various revivals to date. The area has a right to be productive and finally renovated to a stable condition. The current program is a means to that end.