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Organization:

Title:

Comments: Dear Linda Jackson and Whom Else it May Concern,

I am writing to request to extend the comment period for the Idaho Stibnite Gold Project Draft EIS from 60 days to 120 days on the grounds that by law, NEPA is a process to encourage and allow public comment and the USFS is required to make the ability to comment accessible and inclusive to all U.S. citizens. I am a citizen of the United States and was born and raised in Idaho and still live here today. The comment period being 60 days inhibits the accessibility, inclusivity, and opportunity to our rights as U.S. citizens to review and comment on the Idaho Stibnite Gold Project Proposal.

I work as an elementary school teacher, staff writer for a sustainable apparel company and Territory and Sun Valley Magazines, and consult on eco-tourism development abroad. I work a minimum of 45 hours a week and have family obligations on top of that, and yet, even with finding 2 hours every week to review the DEIS, it is simply impossible to get through, as it is 1000s of pages long and involves complex material. Others may not have the luxury of devoting such time to review of this document- since its release our community members have been displaced by fires, put out of work and at risk with COVID, and many have experienced unpredictable life events. It is discriminatory to assume that 60 days is sufficient to uphold the USFS's duty to make this process accessible and inclusive. What about my friend who had a baby during this time and has been in the depths of motherhood and recovering from a C- section? Or my friend who had plans to get married and go on a trip off the grid during this time? Or someone who has lost a family member? Or someone who simply works and has obligations.

As mentioned in a previous request, similar mining proposals, such as the Pebble mine have had comment periods of 120 days. Also, there is evidence that employees of the Forest Service have been "re-allocated" and "hushed" during this process, and that your position was in fact given due to your position in favor of this project. It is illegal for you and the USFS to be pursuing rushing this project through a public comment period and cutting it short due to your personal interests. You must extend the comment period to 120 days.

Thank You,  
Kira Tenney