

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/26/2020 6:00:00 AM

First name: Frank

Last name: Eld

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I want to add my support to the Midas Gold project at Stibnite. The Company's Plan of Restoration Operation (PRO) presents a viable mining project that accomplishes several important goals. As a retired Valley County Commissioner and a Board member of Stibnite Gold, I am intimately familiar with both, the project, and the economic needs of Valley County. The first goal is the creation of well paying jobs for the area. Tourism can not provide and sustain the entire economy of the county, especially in challenging times as we are now experiencing. Midas Gold can provide hundreds of employment opportunities that are not available any longer. Once sustained by the timber industry, the area no longer has an economic base that guarantees sustainable wages. The second goal that the Midas Gold project would address the egregious pollution that has been deposited for posterity when the previous unregulated mining companies ceased operations. Throughout my lifetime, we have had to endure the scars in the landscape, including the infamous "glory hole," which ought to have been more aptly labeled the "hell hole" of Stibnite. These scars for which there is not Federal funding available would be addressed by Midas Gold. Goal three would be the reconstruction of Fish habitat, again something funding has never been available to correct. As a Commissioner who has struggled with county budgets trying to meet the needs of our residents, I can appreciate the influx of millions of dollars in local taxes that will be generated by Midas Gold. Many more benefits could be listed but just those listed above are reason enough for the advancement of this project. The economic and environmental benefits from the Midas Gold project are immeasurable. Please adopt Alternative 2 in favor of this project.