Data Submitted (UTC 11): 12/28/2022 10:28:14 PM
First name: AMANDA
Last name: Gurney
Organization: Diamond Fuel and Feed
Title:
Comments: Dear Ms. Jackson,
This letter is to inform the Payette National Forest of Diamond Fuel and Feed, Inc.'s view-point regarding the Stibnite Gold Project's Modified Mine Plan via Burntlog Road.
Our team feels that this will be a benefit for our community here in Cascade. It will supply the necessary jobs, improve our fish migration, and provide one of the critical minerals we need to be independent from foreign nations.
Perpetua Resources' plan to improve our economy in Cascade, Idaho is to provide more stable year-round jobs. Currently this project will provide five hundred direct jobs with an average salary of $80,000. Due to our current reliance on tourism as a county the average per capita income is $31,000 a year. This is pushing people out of our community. With the improvement of stable salaries we would expect to see a better school district, safer environment for our children, and more reliable community resources.
The mining activities that occurred decades ago was conducted without the benefit of modern environmental regulations. With the updated technology and improved safety developments, Perpetua will see that the Stibnite area is improved to be better than it is today. During this implementation of their project they will improve water quality by reprocessing and safely storing millions of tons of historical tailings that were placed in and adjacent to streams and rivers at Stibnite.
Along with this improvement they will be able to restore the fish migration pattern back to the original spawning grounds. This has been blocked for over eighty years. The flow of the East Fork and South Fork of the Salmon River will follow a natural gradient that can support fish passage after decades of the river flowing into an abandoned mining pit. This will also provide sustainable ecosystem health and better fish diversity even after the completion of their project.
I know that this will happen because Perpetua will put the money aside for reclamation before mining ever begins. Modern financial assurance laws require mining companies to bond for the actual cost of reclamation, this is much better than the per acre rate that use to be charged. So even if the company goes bankrupt, Stibnite will be restored. Without private investment, this may never happen.
Diamond Fuel and Feed (and its predecessor) has contributed to Perpetua's fuel hauls for more than the past 10 years. During this time Perpetua has taken every precaution (above and beyond all federal and state requirements) to ensure that the fuel arrives with no issues. Perpetua requires a Hazmat team, response equipment, pilot cars, and routes planned out in advance. Perpetua also

informs local Law Enforcement, EMS, Forest Service, Nez Perce Tribe, and Fire Departments when fuel hauls are scheduled. Perpetua always communicates with all appropriate entities during fuel hauls. As a result, in over 127 months of hauling fuel there have been no spills.
As a company, they take safety and protecting the environment very seriously and they have a proven track record of doing so. It's been over 82 months since they had a lost time injury. And they actively work with contractors, vendors, their staff and local agencies to continually improve their safety practices to ensure that we all make it home safely to our families and that we protect this beautiful place we call home.
Perpetua is working towards improving our mineral supplies. Currently China holds most of the control of critical mineral supply chains. When Perpetua is able to move forward with this project, they will be able to supply one of the 50 minerals our government has declared critical to our national security and our economy. The mineral antimony and this project will be the United States only mined source of this mineral. They will be able to meet around 35% of the US'

antimony demand in the first few years of production. This makes the Stibnite mine the largest source of antimony outside of Chinese and Russian control. Due to this it will provide us some domestic security and supply chain independence.

Diamond Fuel and Feed would like to see this project moving forward and will provide any input requested. As business owners here in Valley County, we benefit greatly from Perpetua's presence here. They have been good partners and great neighbors. If the project does not move forward, it will have a negative impact on our business and if the project is approved, Perpetua's commitment to hiring locally and using local vendors when possible, means that our company and community will benefit greatly.

Perpetua Resources is taking the necessary steps to ensure that our public resources and the environment at Stibnite will be repaired and will not continue to be impacted by legacy actions from days gone by. Perpetua has the support of Diamond Fuel and Feed, Inc. regarding this project.

We are excited to see what our future will be here in Valley County.