Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/11/2023 1:15:57 AM
First name: Don
Last name: Lowry
Organization: WSP USA Inc.
Title: Senior Engineering Geologist
Comments: January 10, 2023

Linda Jackson, Payette Forest Supervisor
U.S. Forest Service

SDEIS Comment Document
Ms. Jackson
I am a licensed engineering geologist in the state of California, though I live in the Denver metropolitan area. Our WSP (formerly Golder Associates, Inc.) Seismic Hazard group has assisted Perpetua Resources Inc. (PRI) with a recent 2021 update of the site-specific seismic hazard at the Stibnite Gold Project and ancillary assessments to further on-going site engineering and design.
A number of benefits - to the environment, to the nation and to the stakeholders - will be achieved during the proposed life of mine.
*The site currently houses more than 10 MT of tailings, waste rock and other stockpiles that inhibit fish migration and impact river habitats. Proposed construction of a "fishway" passage would enormously benefit the Chinook salmon and Steelhead in Mine Year -1, which would allow these species to volitionally access habitat that they have not naturally accessed for decades. By Mine Year 11, the East Fork SFSR, where the Yellow Pine pit is located, would have been restored, providing natural conditions for volitional passage. (SDEIS 4.12.2; p.4-343). The fishway would allow egress to more than 20 miles of fish habitat that is inaccessible today.
*Cleanup and management of the existing tailings and waste rock will lead to an overall drop in waste biproducts leaching into the river system, including arsenic and antimony.
*The Stibnite Gold Project site is the only known source of antimony in the United States. As about 90 percent of the world's supply of antimony come from sources not in strong alliance with the U.S. (Russia, China, others), it's important for the nation to secure its own significant source of antimony for use in batteries, electronic components and ammunition (lead alloys).
PRI has diligently worked for the past 12 years to advance the Stibnite Gold Project toward regulatory approval. The last 6 years have seen significant project refinement with outcomes that will alleviate 10 MT of existing problems. PRI has been diligent in not only following, but in actively engaging in the NEPA process to create a project plan that enhances the region.
Thank you for the work that you do to be the steward of our precious national environmental resources. Please consider SDEIS approval for this important project.
Sincerely,

Don Lowry, PG, CEG
Senior Engineering Geologist
WSP USA Inc.