Data Submitted (UTC 11): 8/26/2020 6:00:00 AM
First name: Dean
Last name: Mortimer
Organization: Idaho State Senate, State of Idaho
Title: Idaho State Senator, District 30
Comments: As a former business owner, and Chairman of the Idaho Senate Education Committee, the wellbeing of our economy and of our local communities is extremely important to me. That is why I am writing to you in support of the Midas Gold Stibnite Gold Project and the draft Environmental Impact Statemen released by the U.S Forest Service.

Midas Gold has identified a world-class deposit of gold and a supply of antimony not found anywhere else in the United States. Midas Gold is proposing to restore the land previously damaged after a century of unregulated mining, all the while providing our nation with a domestic supply of antimony rather than having to purchase it from China.

This project represents a $1 billion private investment into our state that we desperately need. Midas old is also committed to hiring local for this project, meaning they will pay for and provide training opportunities for Idahoans that would not otherwise be available. Average hired employees will also be making up to $60,000 per year, which is more than the leisure and hospitality industries common in communities around the site. Additionally, supplies and services needed for the project will be purchased local ly when reasonable, further supporting our economy and local businesses.

I would like to urge the U.S. Forest Service to adopt Alternative 2 proposed by Midas Gold Idaho and examined in the draft EIS. Thank you for your consideration of my comments on this important issue.