

Dear Permitting Officials,

I am writing in support of the Stibnite Gold Project. Thank you for the opportunity to provide my feedback as part of the National Environmental Policy Act.

Alternative 2 provides a higher degree of safety for both the location of a new tailings storage facility as well the road options for accessing the site. Under this alternative, Midas Gold will locate its tailings storage facility in an area that is already impacted by past mining activity, whereas Alternative 3 would place it in an untouched area of the site. This unnecessarily exposes more of the surrounding environment to mining operations. For road safety, Alternative 2 reduces the risk of potential spills, minimizes sediment runoff to waterways, and avoids winter avalanche site whereas Alternative 4 would keep the access road where it is, adjacent to the river.

My wife and I explore back roads of Idaho and other northwest regions. We have been to the Stibnite Gold Project several times and found the area to be well managed and maintained. On a couple of visits to the site we met with employees/staff and found them to be helpful, taking the time to explain the area to us.

This Stibnite Gold Project is a huge opportunity for Idaho. I am grateful for the tools the Forest Service has provided to review the DEIS and learn more about the project. These tools have given Idahoans sufficient time to comment. Please permit alternative 2 and continue moving the project forward so our citizens can reap the positive impacts.

Regards,

Les Cochran

Name: Les Cochran