

It is with great pleasure that I write to the U.S. Forest Service to encourage you to permit the proposed activities outlined by Perpetua Resources during this public input process. This project could help restore Stibnite, secure an American source of antimony and strengthen our nation's supply chains.

One of the top reasons why I support Perpetua Resources' plans is because it will secure an American source of antimony. The federal government deemed antimony a critical mineral because of its use in the energy and national defense industries. Today, there is no domestic source of this mineral. Most of it comes from China or Russia, which makes our country vulnerable. America's military depend on antimony to protect our country and stay safe. The mineral is used in munitions, military clothing, night vision goggles, infrared sensors and more. It is irresponsible to continue relying on our adversaries to provide us with antimony. I have reviewed the plan and believe the Burntlog option will allow the company to mine safely, minimize the impacts to the environment and help protect our national security.

As the U.S. Forest Service and other state and federal agencies review the 2021 Modified Mine Plan and determine the course of action, I encourage you to consider the positive benefits Perpetua Resources will have on Idaho, especially now that the company has reduced its environmental footprint and made further improvements to water quality. This truly is a win-win opportunity for Idahoans and the environment. After years of careful scrutiny by regulators and the community, it is time for us to make these benefits a reality.

Chris Norton