

America desperately needs antimony. This mineral is used in munitions, large-capacity storage batteries, fire retardants and more. Currently, we are entirely dependent on foreign countries to provide this mineral, which is why I am writing in support of the Stibnite Gold Project. This project can stop our import reliance on antimony.

I am impressed with Perpetua Resources' current dedication to repairing legacy environmental issues at the site from mining activity that took place on and off for more than 100 years. This is a major investment. Government agencies would not have the budget to perform all the necessarily reclamation work. This private/public partnership is the right approach for Idaho and will solve environmental issues while providing the area with a significant economic boost. In reviewing the SDEIS, I am very impressed with the further improvements the company has made to its plan. They eliminated the Fiddle Development Rock Storage Facility, reduced the project footprint again, added more plantings on site to reduce water temperature and outlined additional actions to be taken to improve water quality. It is clear to me we have a path forward that will protect Idaho's environment and allow us to mine a critical mineral our nation is currently lacking.

I appreciate your time and thoughtfulness in the review process. The U.S. Forest Service has not cut any corners over the past 6 years analyzing the project and I've appreciated the opportunities to provide feedback. For the reasons I stated in my letter above, please permit the Stibnite Gold Project.

Harold Lane