

The Stibnite Gold Project presents a big opportunity for Idaho. Without this project, the conditions at Stibnite will likely never get better. Fish will continue to be blocked from their spawning grounds by an abandoned mine pit and legacy tailings will continue to degrade water quality. The project also presents an opportunity for America. It could help secure a domestic source of antimony, so we can stop our import reliance on this critical mineral. This is an important project and I appreciate the opportunity to provide my feedback as part of Perpetua Resources' public permitting process.

After reviewing the SDEIS, the 2021 Modified Mine Plan appears to be the alternative that best minimizes adverse environmental impacts as required in the Forest Service's regulations. The company has very comprehensive mitigation measures to protect the natural habitat, wildlife and fish. As a private citizen, I appreciate that in addition to the lengthy NEPA review provided by the U.S. Forest Service the Stibnite Gold Project will also be required to comply with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations, including those governing financial assurance. This knowledge makes me feel comfortable supporting the 2021 Modified Mine Plan and encouraging you to move it forward. Perpetua Resources has proven they are listening to community feedback. The company has gone back to reduce the footprint, improve water quality, so there is no need for long-term treatment, and ensure water temperatures stay at or below current conditions.

The Stibnite Gold Project is important to Idaho, our national security and clean energy future. Regulators have been reviewing the project for the past 6 years. This time has allowed the project to improve and, now, I encourage you to permit the project as quickly as possible.

Robert Richards