

I am writing to express my full support of Perpetua Resources and the Stibnite Gold Project. The project would finally address legacy mining issues that have been plaguing the site for decades and help secure the minerals we need for America's future. The company has shown its commitment to Valley County and the state of Idaho and I encourage you to adopt the proposed activities outlined in the company's 2021 Modified Mine Plan during the permitting process.

There are many checks and balances in place to ensure Perpetua Resources follows through on its promises to restore the site. In fact, the company is required by law to set aside all of the money it needs for restoration before mining can begin. However, I am not worried about Perpetua staying true to its word. The company has already started restoration work at the site. They have planted more than 60,000 trees to help reduce the amount of sediment going into the river, installed solar energy panels at site to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improved miles of road along the river to protect fish habitat. However, what's more impressive to me is the changes the company has made following the comments they received on the DEIS. They took the feedback from stakeholders to heart and looked at ways to further improve the plan. In the 2021 Modified Mine Plan, the company has eliminated the Fiddle Development Rock Storage Facility, which shrinks the footprint by 168 acres, the size of the Hanger Flats pit was reduced by 70%, mined material was reduced by 10% and there is no longer the need for long-term water treatment. With the additional improvements, I feel strongly that the project should move forward – especially because it would allow us to secure a domestic source of antimony.

Perpetua Resources wants to invest \$1 billion in our state, bring more than 1,000 jobs to rural Idaho and still provide access to Idaho's public lands. This is the type of project our state needs. After reviewing the project for six years, I highly encourage the U.S. Forest Service to move the project forward with the improvements laid out in the SDEIS.

Beverly Cawthon