

I have reviewed Perpetua Resources' plans and met with members of their team to better understand the Stibnite Gold Project. I am impressed with the company's commitment to use modern mining to leave the area better than they found it, while providing our nation with the minerals we need. Below are my comments on the plan to be included in the project record.

I am supportive of Perpetua Resources' refined plan in large part because regulators named it as their preferred alternative. The USFS indicated it was the best option for mining the site because it eliminated the need for perpetual water treatment, had a better access route and did a better job managing stream temperatures. Regulators would not have identified Perpetua's plan as their favorite unless they were confident the company could minimize impacts to the environment and community while mining for gold and the critical mineral antimony.

The Stibnite Gold Project is the type of project our state needs. It has been in regulatory review for the past six years. During this time, public comments and scientific analysis has helped to improve the plan. But now it is time to move it forward. I highly encourage the U.S. Forest Service to permit this project, using the 2021 Modified Mine Plan presented by Perpetua Resources in the SDEIS, as expeditiously as possible.

Matthew Caddell