

I am proud to welcome Perpetua Resources into our state and proud to support the Stibnite Gold Project. The project will produce America's only source of antimony, a mineral our national security and clean energy future depends upon, and leave the site in better condition than it is today. I hope you will take the time to consider my comments on why you should move to permit the project.

Regulators named Perpetua Resources' improved plan as its preferred alternative because the company proved it could mine safely while minimizing its impacts to the environment and community. Perpetua Resources will be transporting hazardous materials to and from the site, which is why I am grateful the USFS recognizes Burntlog Road is a safer option because it minimizes river crosses and rarely parallels waterways. As long as there is activity at the site, there will always be the possibility a spill could occur. However, the SDEIS concluded the duration of any single incident involving hazardous materials would only last hours or days and would likely be readily cleaned up and contained without any release to the environment. The SDEIS shows me Perpetua really can leave the site better than they found it.

Reviewing Perpetua Resources' improved plans it is clear to me the company really believes in taking care of the environment and keeping the community safe. That is why they reduced water temperatures, improved water quality and shrunk the project footprint by 13 percent. I urge you to trust in your own review process and permit the Stibnite Gold Project.

Robert Nicholson