

I have been closely following Perpetua Resources' plans for several years. The Stibnite Gold Project presents an opportunity to restore an abandoned mine site and provide our nation with the critical minerals we need. I am grateful for the opportunity to comment on their SDEIS.

Today, arsenic and antimony levels at the site are far beyond what is considered healthy for humans or aquatic life. Metals have been leaching into the ground and surface water around the site for years from mine waste that was left behind from legacy mining operations. The Stibnite Gold Project, as outlined in the preferred alternative, will improve water quality conditions at the site because Perpetua Resources plans to remove old mining materials. Of course, the project will contribute new mine waste. However, the SDEIS concludes Perpetua's design features and today's technology will reduce new impacts to water quality. There are environmental benefits to the Stibnite Gold Project and I believe the right checks and balances are in place to move the project forward.

Perpetua Resources wants to help America secure a domestic supply of the critical mineral antimony and clean up a brownfield site. They've made great improvements to the project from the original documents they submitted – this shows the permitting process has done its job. It is time to permit the Stibnite Gold Project and continue to move this important project forward.

Deborah Ballard