

IN THE SENATE

SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 103

BY STATE AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

A JOINT MEMORIAL

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, THE CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION REPRESENTING THE STATE OF IDAHO IN THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES, THE UNITED STATES SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE, THE UNITED STATES SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR, THE UNITED STATES SECRETARY OF COMMERCE, THE UNITED STATES COMMANDING GENERAL OF THE ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, THE UNITED STATES ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY, THE GOVERNOR OF IDAHO, AND THE IDAHO GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF ENERGY AND MINERAL RESOURCES.

We, your Memorialists, the Senate and the House of Representatives of the State of Idaho assembled in the First Regular Session of the Sixty-eighth Idaho Legislature, do hereby respectfully represent that:

WHEREAS, Idaho, The Gem State, hosts abundant mineral resources that have been and continue to be an integral part of Idaho's economy and American prosperity; and

WHEREAS, the Stibnite Mining District in central Idaho is rich with gold, antimony, tungsten, and silver and has hosted mining activity for nearly a century after it was discovered at the turn of the 20th century; and

WHEREAS, during World War II, the mine site produced approximately half of the tungsten and up to 90% of the antimony for the United States war effort; and

WHEREAS, because the mine was abandoned before modern regulations guaranteed cleanup, the Stibnite Mining District was left with severe environmental legacies that continue to degrade water quality and the environment of Idaho; and

WHEREAS, today, the Stibnite Mining District still holds a significant reserve of 4.8 million ounces of gold and 148 million pounds of antimony; and

WHEREAS, the United States has urgent national defense needs for a secure antimony supply; and

WHEREAS, Perpetua Resources' Stibnite Gold Project has the only identified domestic reserve of antimony, which could satisfy about 35% of domestic antimony demand in the first six years of production and fulfill long-term United States defense needs for antimony trisulfide; and

WHEREAS, currently, China, Russia, and Tajikistan control 90% of the world's antimony supply; and

WHEREAS, in 2024, the Chinese Communist Party restricted all antimony exports to the United States; and

WHEREAS, Perpetua Resources designed the redevelopment of the Stibnite Mining District to improve the environmental conditions previously left behind and took great care to incorporate the needs and perspectives of Idaho communities into the design of the Stibnite Gold Project, including making project modifications to address the concerns of nearby residents, to accom-

1 modate recreation interests, to reduce the project footprint, and to leave  
2 environmental conditions better than they are today; and

3 WHEREAS, Perpetua Resources will invest approximately \$2.2 billion in  
4 the construction of the Stibnite Gold Project, which will include upgrades  
5 to Idaho's power and road infrastructure, employ over 500 people annually  
6 throughout the mining operations, and spend more than \$220 million annually  
7 in operational expenses throughout the life of the mine, supporting Idaho's  
8 local and state economy; and

9 WHEREAS, Perpetua Resources has already invested over \$19 million in  
10 early site cleanup activities to help improve water quality in the region;  
11 and

12 WHEREAS, Perpetua Resources has and will continue to dedicate valuable  
13 resources back to Idaho's local communities and pave the way for responsible  
14 mining projects in the State of Idaho; and

15 WHEREAS, after nearly a decade of consultation, scientific evaluation,  
16 and analysis, including the evaluation and analysis of reasonable alterna-  
17 tives, the United States Forest Service issued a Final Record of Decision  
18 supporting Perpetua Resources' proposed mine plan on January 3, 2025; and

19 WHEREAS, the critical minerals produced by the Stibnite Gold Project  
20 will be vital to our nation's energy and national security and the State of  
21 Idaho has coordinated the permitting process between state agencies; and

22 WHEREAS, the Final Record of Decision found that mining operations and  
23 closure activities will open currently inaccessible habitat for salmon and  
24 other fish species, improve water quality and river habitat, and uplift en-  
25 vironmental conditions, including cleaning up various legacy contamination  
26 at the abandoned mine site; and

27 WHEREAS, the selection of the Burntlog Route as the primary mine access  
28 route prioritizes transportation safety, reduces potential impacts to the  
29 residents of Yellow Pine, utilizes existing routes as much as possible, and  
30 reduces potential risks to Idaho's scenic rivers and wetlands; and

31 WHEREAS, Perpetua Resources will provide financial assurances to the  
32 State of Idaho and the federal government to ensure environmental reclama-  
33 tion for the Stibnite Gold Project is completed; and

34 WHEREAS, this Final Record of Decision solidifies America's unwavering  
35 dedication to secure a domestic mineral supply chain while also exhibiting  
36 environmental stewardship.

37 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the members of the First Regular Ses-  
38 sion of the Sixty-eighth Idaho Legislature, the Senate and the House of Rep-  
39 resentatives concurring therein, that the Legislature commends the approval  
40 of the Stibnite Gold Project and encourages the Trump administration and the  
41 State of Idaho to dedicate the necessary attention and resources to ensure  
42 the Stibnite Gold Project completes necessary permitting and enters into de-  
43 velopment without undue delay.

44 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature requests that Idaho state  
45 and federal agencies complete careful and expeditious permitting for criti-  
46 cal and strategic mineral projects in the United States.

47 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate be, and she is  
48 hereby authorized and directed to forward a copy of this Memorial to the  
49 President of the United States, the President of the Senate and the Speaker  
50 of the House of Representatives of Congress, the congressional delega-

1   tion representing the State of Idaho in the Congress of the United States,  
2   the Secretary of Agriculture, the Commanding General of the Army Corps of  
3   Engineers, the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Commerce, the Ad-  
4   ministrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, the Governor of Idaho,  
5   and to the Idaho Governor's Office of Energy and Mineral Resources.