

April 12, 2016

Dr. Richard Christensen
Professor of Engineering
University of Idaho
1776 Science Center Drive
Idaho Falls, Idaho 83402

SUBJECT: Support for Avista Program on Energy Efficiency at Food Processing Plants

Dear Professor Christensen:

I am writing to express my strong support for your proposal to Avista entitled "Energy Efficiency Planning at Avista". As one of the nation's Department of Energy national laboratories, the Idaho National Laboratory (INL) is deeply committed to engaging with universities and the private sector to provide strong solutions to our energy challenges. The Center for Advanced Energy Studies (CAES) leverages assets across the INL and regional universities (Univ. of Idaho, Univ. of Wyoming, Boise State Univ. and Idaho State Univ.) for engaging with the private sector. This proposal, if funded, would lead to substantial gains in energy and water efficiency across the food processing industry which is one of the leading consumers of energy and water in our region.

The INL has a successful history of working with public utilities in the area of energy and water efficiency. This history includes programs interconnected with utilities involving energy efficiency modelling for nuclear, coal and gas, hydro and renewable energy facilities. Our expertise on energy and water efficiency modelling is robust and personnel such as Dr. Michael McKellar, who will be assigned to this program from the INL, typify the personnel at the INL working in this area. Dr. McKellar will be an excellent mentor for the graduate student working on this project with him, and he can involve others at the INL working in this area to help enrich the future knowledge of assigned students.

Considerable attention is being given by CAES/INL toward the energy-water nexus with extra focus on the food processing industry in our region. Thus, I will commit to funding Dr. McKellar for up to 40 hours of his time to mentor UI graduate students in modeling of energy: mass balance in the food processing industry. We will use the CAES Industry Affiliate Program funding to support this project.

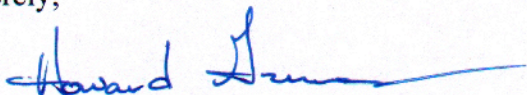
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As the CAES Director for Innovation & Industry Partnerships, I will engage with this team in the planning and execution of this project and will, as needed and appropriate, encourage other CAES expertise to engage.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Howard Grimes", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dr. Howard Grimes

Director, Innovation & Industry Partnerships

Center for Advanced Energy Programs, and

Energy and Environment Science & Technology, Idaho National Laboratory

cc: M. C. Hagood, MS 3560

E. S. Peterson, MS 3560