



February 26, 2026

CCN 259849

Idaho State University
921 S. 8th Ave
Mail Stop 8072
Pocatello, ID 83209-8072

SUBJECT: Letter of Support for Rep. Mike Simpson FY27 Community Project Funding Characterization of critical minerals *in situ* to strengthen plans for extraction.

Dear Whom it May Concern:

I am writing in support of the Idaho State University (ISU) Office for Research proposal to acquire new instrumentation to directly advance our region's impact on measurement sciences, critical materials, and environmental monitoring.

These instruments would dramatically expand research capacity at ISU. The suite of new instruments would help build essential infrastructure for critical mineral recovery by *enhancing in situ* characterization and strengthening plans for critical element extraction as well as improving wastewater surveillance and investigating environmental contaminants affecting Idaho's water and agricultural systems. These analytical tools will also strengthen the partnerships between Idaho National Laboratory and ISU by improving equipment capabilities and enhancing future collaborations in critical minerals and materials. Integrating these advanced technologies at ISU would position the regional scientific community at the forefront of modern, data-driven science enabling the development of cutting-edge technologies and support the success of our community, our state, and our nation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul Slezak", written in a cursive style.

Paul Slezak
Geologist
Geothermal Energy & Subsurface Systems

PS:MLK



February 26, 2026

RE: Letter of Support Letter for Rep. Simpson FY27 Community Project Funding Request

Characterization of critical minerals in-situ to strengthen plans for extraction.

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing in support of the Idaho State University Office for Research proposal to acquire new instrumentation to directly advance our region's impact on measurement sciences, critical materials, and environmental monitoring.

These instruments would dramatically expand research capacity at Idaho State University. The suite of new instruments would help build essential infrastructure for critical mineral recovery by enhancing in-situ characterization and strengthening plans for extraction as well as improving wastewater surveillance and investigating environmental contaminants affecting Idaho's water and agricultural systems. These analytical tools will strengthen the partnerships between Perpetua Resources and Idaho State University and enhance future collaborations. Integrating these advanced technologies at Idaho State University would position the regional scientific community at the forefront of modern, data-driven science enabling the development of cutting-edge technologies and support the success of our community, our state, and our nation.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Blaine Serrin". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "B".

Blaine Serrin

Geologist and Local Engagement Coordinator



February 27, 2026

RE: Letter of Support Letter for Rep. Simpson FY27 Community Project Funding Request

Characterization of critical minerals insitu to strengthen plans for extraction.

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing in support of the Idaho State University Office for Research proposal to acquire new instrumentation to directly advance our region's impact on measurement sciences, critical materials, and environmental monitoring.

These instruments would dramatically expand research capacity at Idaho State University. The suite of new instruments would help build essential infrastructure for critical mineral recovery by enhancing in situ characterization and strengthening plans for extraction as well as improving wastewater surveillance and investigating environmental contaminants affecting Idaho's water and agricultural systems. These analytical tools will strengthen the partnerships between Simplot and Idaho State University and enhance future collaborations. Integrating these advanced technologies at Idaho State University would position the regional scientific community at the forefront of modern, data-driven science enabling the development of cutting-edge technologies and support the success of our community, our state, and our nation.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Theo Warner".

Theo Warner
Director of Engineering
AgriBusiness – Mining & Manufacturing Division
1130 West Highway 30
Pocatello, ID 83204

Mayor Mark Dahlquist

Dakota Bates | Corey Mangum | Brent R. Nichols
Hayden James Paulsen | Stacy Satterfield | Ann Swanson

February 26, 2026

The Honorable Mike Simpson
U.S. House of Representatives
2084 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

RE: Letter of Support for Representative Simpson FY27 Community Project Funding Request

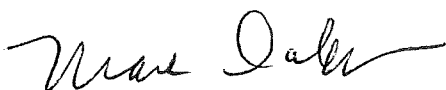
Dear Representative Simpson:

I am pleased to express our strong support for Idaho State University's (ISU) initiative to expand its research infrastructure in critical materials, environmental science, and biological systems, with a strong emphasis on regional and industrial collaboration.

ISU's planned investment in advanced analytical instrumentation—including the Orbitrap Excedion Pro Mass Spectrometer, Vega benchtop HiFi long-read sequencing system, CFX qPCR platform, BET sorptometer, LC-MS systems, and SEM with EDS/CL—represents a significant and timely enhancement of Idaho's scientific capabilities. This integrated, high-resolution analytical ecosystem will enable cutting-edge research in critical material recovery, environmental monitoring, and water quality, while supporting both academic and industrial innovation across the region.

Thank you for considering this request. I look forward to the positive impact it will have on our community.

Sincerely,



Mark Dahlquist
Mayor