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CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT,
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LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,
EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES.

May 2, 2025

Chairman Tom Cole
Ranking Member Rosa DeLauro
House Committee on Appropriations
H-307
U.S. Capitol
Washington, DC. 20515

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

I request \$4,000,000 for a community project funding request for the Idaho Center for Agriculture, Food, and the Environment in Fiscal Year 2026. The intended recipient is the University of Idaho in conjunction with ARS Kimberly. The applicant is located at 1350 N 100 W Rupert, Idaho 83350

Funding would be used to build a flexible manure handling system at the Idaho Center for Agriculture, Food and the Environment (CAFE) site. CAFE is a UI-led effort to establish the nation's largest research dairy, which will have the capacity to support 2,000-cows, and sits on 640 acres in Rupert, ID. The flexible manure treatment system will be used for testing and evaluating manure separation and nutrient extraction technologies. This funding will build on investments already made that supported research equipment storage and a shop facility for ARS at their Kimberly, ID, site and the building of a basic manure separation facility. Additional funding will enable the creation of an advanced manure research facility at CAFE with multiple treatment technologies and enhanced nutrient recovery to maximize research outcomes and technology development. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because research conducted at CAFE will examine dairying in the West, while hosting long-term experiments that evaluate the use of dairy manure in crop production and assess soil health and water use to support a profitable and sustainable dairy industry nationwide. Research outcomes and technology developments at CAFE will ensure a significant return on investment and benefits to the dairy industry, growers, and consumers.

This project has a Federal nexus because it is for the purposes authorized in 7 U.S. Code section 2250.

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,

Mike Simpson
Member of Congress