



Center for Environmental Biotechnology

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February 27, 2005

Dear Committee Member,

I am writing to express my interest in working as a member of the Kimballton team. My interest in this project stems from my Ph.D. research in public awareness about environmental science, and my work as an environmental engineer managing and researching the process of pollution control and achievement of environmental sustainability.

I work closely with other researchers at UT's Center for Environmental Biotechnology (CEB) in education and outreach (E&O) programs for area middle-school, high-school and college undergraduate students that would provide excellent resources and serve as working models for the proposed project. A UT E&O colleague, Dr. Susan Pfiffner, has worked with me for the past several years in organizing outreach about science and engineering to middle school girls and on National Science Foundation funded workshops for underrepresented college undergraduates to study geomicrobiology in South Africa. We are also part of the E&O team for the recent NASA-funded Astrobiology Institute, which involves the Department of Energy (DOE), UT, Indiana U. and Princeton. Through CEB's connections with the East Tennessee Science Partnership, I am part of a team to increase the number of students in the *Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics* (STEM) pipeline through classroom outreach to middle- and high school students in rural Appalachian communities of east Tennessee. My primary role in this project would be to assist with folding in the proposed Kimballton DUSEL project to these existing organizational structures as conduits for E&O.

I look forward to contributing to this intriguing opportunity to capitalize on established infrastructure and professional relationships of the UT-Battelle team members (Virginia Tech, UT and Oak Ridge National Laboratory) to further STEM E&O in Southern Appalachia.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Kimberly L. Davis'.

Kimberly L. Davis, P.E.
Education and Outreach Coordinator
Center for Environmental Biotechnology and Energy, Environment and Resources Center