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RARE METALS

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September 11, 2013

Representative Mark Neuman.
State Capitol, Room 513
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Re: House Bill 150 – Technical and Vocational Education Program – Letter of Support

Dear Representative Neuman:

Please accept this letter of support for the Southern Southeast Alaska Technical Education Center's request for Technical and Vocational Education Program funding.

Ucore Rare Metals, Inc. is in the process of permitting and developing the Bokan-Dotson Ridge Rare Metal Project on Prince of Wales Island, approximately 36 miles from the community of Ketchikan. This is a project that will provide approximately 190 full time jobs during operation; and even more positions during the construction phase. We are committed to a strong local hire policy which is mutually beneficial to the company and the surrounding communities. For this policy to succeed, we will need the training opportunities provided by the Ketchikan Indian Community (KIC) at their Southern Southeast Alaska Technical Education Center (SSEATEC) to help ensure there are potential local employees with the skills necessary to do the work required. KIC and SSEATEC do an excellent job of providing introductory skills needed on the job such as: safe working habits, experience with power tools, and introductory regulatory required certifications under the Mine Safety and Health Act requirements. We also value the goal of the center which strives to ensure that each graduate is 'work ready', which includes screening and attention to life skills as well as industry focused training.

Ucore Rare Metals will, by company policy, give priority consideration to local SSEATEC students when hiring new workers.

We hope you give SSEATEC's request for funding serious consideration.

Sincerely,

Randy MacGillivray
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