



Southern Oregon Regional
Economic Development, Inc.
Wildly Serious About Business

March 7, 2024

Clayste Energy Systems, Inc.
Steve and Chrystal Clayton
cclayton@clayste.com

RE: SOREDI Support for Clayste Energy Systems SBIR Grant

Dear Steve and Chrystal,

Southern Oregon Regional Economic Development, Inc. (SOREDI) whole-heartedly provides this letter of support again for the Clayste Energy Systems SBIR grant application which you are submitting to the Department of Energy for a Phase I Grant.

SOREDI is the region's economic development district, and innovative efforts and investments such as yours is included as a key initiative within our region's One Rogue Valley Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS).

INITIATIVE 2. INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP Leverage regional assets to strengthen the innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem in Southern Oregon

2.2.1. Ensure companies have the infrastructure and resources needed to explore new ideas and take them to market.

2.5. Support companies seeking US Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and US Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) grants, especially during the application process for Phase II funding.

Southern Oregon appreciates the Department of Energy's efforts to encourage thoughtful and long-term planning around innovation-related infrastructure, and to support the research and development of new technologies which may prove to be of value in an energy-dependent world. We are confident that your successful application to bring Marine Energy Supply Development efforts to fruition will leverage other existing resources to support and assist in building and improving innovative technologies.

Your long-standing contributions to Southern Oregon's economic vitality are noticeable and we welcome the opportunity to assist you as you move forward. Moreover, we are enthusiastic about not only your technology development, but the jobs and additional capital creation opportunities that Clayste Energy Systems will bring to our rural communities.

We trust that the Department of Energy will recognize your understanding of manufacturing processes and the ability to fabricate specialized equipment, along with your long tenure in business here in Southern Oregon and award your diligence with an SBIR award! We stand ready to assist you in partnership with many other local agencies. Please reach out anytime.

Sincerely,

Colleen Padilla, Executive Director
colleen@soredi.org, (541) 601-6918

1311 E. Barnett Road, Suite 301, Medford, OR 97504 | (541) 773-8946 | www.soredi.org

City of Ashland • City of Cave Junction • City of Central Point • City of Eagle Point • City of Gold Hill • City of Jacksonville • City of Phoenix
City of Rogue River • City of Shady Cove • City of Talent • Town of Butte Falls

FOUNDING UNDERWRITER
Jackson County
Josephine County
City of Grants Pass
City of Medford

EXECUTIVE UNDERWRITER
AllCare Health
Asante
Avista Utilities
Banner Bank
Breeze Capital Management, LLC /
Standard Financial
Brophy Schmor, LLP
Cow Creek Band of Umpqua
Tribe of Indians
ECS Composites
First Interstate Bank
Harry & David Operations
Hunter Communications
Lithia Motors, Inc.
Moss Adams, LLP
PacifiCorp
People's Bank of Commerce
Plexis Healthcare Systems
Regence BlueCross BlueShield
Rogue Credit Union
Tribal One
Umpqua Bank
US Bank

UNDERWRITER
Amy's Kitchen
Ausland Group
Boise Cascade, LLC
Britt Music and Arts Festival
Carestream
Cascade Wood Products
Coldwell Banker Commercial NW
Cummins, Inc.
Cutler Investment Group
Dutch Bros
Evergreen Federal Bank
Fire Mountain Gems & Beads
Jackson County Fire District #3
JB Steel, Inc.
KDRV
KeyBank
Knife River
KOGAP Enterprises, Inc.
Lava Lanes
Linde Group
Mahar Homes, Inc.
MasterBrand Cabinets, Inc.
Medford Fabrication
Met One Instruments
Morgan Lodging, LLC
Murphy Company
Naumes, Inc.
Navigator's Hospitality, LLC
NIC Industries
NiceBadge
OMEP - Oregon Manufacturing
Extension Partnership, Inc.
Oregon Tech
ORW Architecture, Inc.
Outlier Construction
Pacific Retirement Services
Providence Medford Medical Center
Rentec Direct, LLC
Rogue Community College
Rogue Disposal & Recycling
(Rogue Waste)
Rogue Valley Precast
Rogue Workforce Partnership
S & H James Construction
South Ashland Business Park, LLC
S.O. Education Service District
Southern Oregon Sanitation
Southern Oregon University
SPACF, LLC
Tekmanagement
Valley Immediate Care
ZCS Engineering & Architecture

Colleen Padilla

From: Chrystal Clayton <cclayton@clayste.com>
Sent: Friday, March 8, 2024 6:18 AM
To: Colleen Padilla
Subject: Re: SBIR Letter of Support from SOREDI

Hi Colleen,

Thank you so much for sending this over. We appreciate your continued support!

Best regards,
Chrystal

--
Chrystal Clayton
CEO Clayste Energy Systems
cclayton@clayste.com
541-941-8984



On Thu, Mar 7, 2024 at 9:37 AM Colleen Padilla <colleen@soredi.org> wrote:

Good morning, Chrystal,

Here is an updated letter of support for your SBIR grant request. Good luck – please let us know of your success, or of anything else we might assist you with.

I also attached a copy of our 2020-2023 One Rogue Valley Report Card – there is a shout out to Clayton Guitar Picks on page 6. 😊

Sincerely,

Colleen Padilla

Executive Director

1311 East Barnett, Ste. 301 | Medford, OR 97504

Cell: (541) 601-6918 | Tel: (541) 200-2177



February 13, 2024

Oregon Legislature

Chair Bynum, Vice Chairs Nguyen and Deihl, and Committee Members

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Southern Oregon Regional Economic Development, Inc. (SOREDI) asks for your strong and immediate financial support to the Oregon Shakespeare Festival (OSF) in Ashland.

SOREDI is the EDA designated Economic Development District for our region, and we house the region's Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS), which we call our One Rogue Valley Strategy. This funding request for OSF is clearly connected to this Strategy within 4 of our 5 key initiatives:

- **INITIATIVE 1. BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT** Ensure thoughtful, sustainable, and equitable economic growth by strategically promoting the region as a destination for business expansion and relocation.
- **INITIATIVE 3. TALENT** Invest in the ecosystem that attracts, equips, and retains a strong pipeline of talent to meet the long-term needs of current and future employers.
- **INITIATIVE 4. TOURISM** Support the organizations and places that strengthen the tourism and experiential environment in Southern Oregon.
- **INITIATIVE 5. PLACEMAKING** Nurture an environment that preserves Southern Oregon's quality of life for residents, businesses, and visitors.

OSF has long been a key performing arts venue in Ashland and the entire region, drawing visitors far and wide, who also visit other entertainment venues and recreational assets in and near our region, supporting additional tourism spending.

Following the pandemic, SOREDI received funding from EDA and we immediately passed through a \$150,000 sub-grant (37.5% of the EDA funding) to the Ashland Chamber of Commerce to fund a business diversification study. The hit to OSF and the region was substantial and required quick action on our part, as a small non-profit agency. We shared quickly and effectively.

We understand that OSF was omitted from the Legislature's 2023 funding measure. Please ensure now that OSF and the surrounding arts and entertainment businesses of Southern Oregon are recognized for their job creation, investments, and contribution to our regional economy with your **kind attention to the OSF funding request and this letter of support.**

Sincerely,

Colleen Padilla, Executive Director

colleen@soredi.org | (541) 773-8946

Review the full One Rogue Valley Strategy here: www.soredi.org/about/regionalstrategy

November 2021

SUSTAINING UNDERWRITER
Jackson County
Josephine County
City of Grants Pass
City of Medford
EXECUTIVE UNDERWRITER
AllCare Health
Asante
Avista Utilities
Banner Bank
Breeze Capital Management, LLC /
Standard Financial
Brophy Schmor, LLP
Cow Creek Band of Umpqua
Tribe of Indians
ECS Composites
First Interstate Bank
Harry & David Operations
Hunter Communications
Lithia Motors, Inc.
Moss Adams, LLP
PacifiCorp
People's Bank
Plexis Healthcare Systems
Regence BlueCross BlueShield
Rogue Credit Union
TribalOne
Umpqua Bank
US Bank
UNDERWRITER
Ausland Group
Boise Cascade, LLC
Britt Music and Arts Festival
Carestream
Cascade Wood Products
Coldwell Banker Commercial NW
Cummins, Inc.
Cutler Investment Group
Dutch Bros
Evergreen Federal Bank
Fire Mountain Gems & Beads
Jackson County Fire District 3
JB Steel, Inc.
KDRV
KeyBank
Knife River Corporation
KOGAP Enterprises, Inc.
Lava Lanes
Linde Group
Mahar Homes, Inc.
MasterBrand Cabinets, Inc.
Medford Fabrication
Met One Instruments
Morgan Lodging, LLC
Murphy Company
Naumes, Inc.
Navigator's Hospitality, LLC
NIC Industries
NiceBadge
OMEPP - Oregon Manufacturing
Extension Partnership, Inc.
Oregon Pacific Bank
Oregon Tech
ORW - Ogden, Roemer, Wilkerson
Pacific Retirement Services
Providence Medford Medical Center
Rentec Direct, LLC
Rogue Community College
Rogue Disposal & Recycling (Rogue Waste)
Rogue Valley Precast
Rogue Workforce Partnership
S & B James Construction
South Ashland Business Park, LLC
Southern Oregon Education
Service District
Southern Oregon Sanitation
Southern Oregon University
Space, LLC
Tekmanagement
Timber Products
Valley Immediate Care
ZCS Engineering & Architecture

Colleen Padilla

From: Greg Lemhouse <greg@ustrategies.org>
Sent: Saturday, March 9, 2024 5:14 PM
To: Colleen Padilla
Cc: Carrie Reed
Subject: Thank you!

Hi Colleen

You may have heard that we were successful in securing 2.56mm from the legislature for OSF.

Your support illustrating the regional economic impact certainly had an impact in the conversations we had with legislators.

Thanks again!

Greg Lemhouse

Phone: 541.944.7185

Email: greg@ustrategies.org

Website: ustrategies.org



CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE:

The contents of this email message and any attachments are intended solely for the addressee(s). If you are not the intended recipient of this message or their agent, please immediately alert the sender by reply email and then delete this message and any attachments. If you are not the intended recipient, any use, dissemination, copying, or storage of this message or its attachments is strictly prohibited.