



26 March 2015

To Whom It May Concern:

I write in support of the EO-1 mission extension through 2016 to enable hyperspectral cryospheric research to continue through the 2016 winter and spring seasons. Hyperspectral imagery acquired with the EO-1 Hyperion sensor has been, and continues to be critical Earth Observation data source for studying snow and ice surface properties.

Since coming to the Cryospheric Sciences Laboratory at NASA/GSFC as a NASA Postdoctoral Program Fellow, I have been collaborating with EO-1 Science Team members on using EO-1 Hyperion imagery to study snow properties in the near boreal zone of northern Minnesota, and Great Lakes ice in northern Wisconsin and northern Michigan. This work during the 2015 winter and spring seasons has involved collecting coincident ground-based spectroscopy snow and ice measurements with a field spectrometer during or near EO-1 Hyperion overpasses. I am pleased to report that there have been a number of successful EO-1 Hyperion acquisitions during field data collection campaigns.

In my view, extending the EO-1 mission through 2016 leverages existing Earth Observation resources and infrastructure that are otherwise not readily available for advancing current and near-term cryospheric research. At the same time, extending the EO-1 mission could support focused study on possible future mission/measurement concepts during a key time period when initial planning is underway for the next decadal survey.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Christopher J. Crawford".

Christopher J. Crawford, Ph.D.
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