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To

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Letter of support of continuation of funding of the EO-1 mission

Dear Stu,

To whom it may concern. As one of the PIs of the ICDP/NSF/NERC/DFG funded international *Hominin Sites and Paleolakes Drilling Project* (HSPDP) we are currently working towards a calibration of chemical climate proxies from long (<278 m) sediment cores. We have identified hyperspectral scanning of both source rocks and sediments, together with hyperspectral satellite imagery as a promising new tool to better understand the processes linking climate with weathering, erosion and sedimentation in largely inaccessible areas such as the Suguta Valley (Kenya) and the Chew Bahir (Ethiopia).

In this project, we are in the middle of the calibration of the new technique. So far, we could evaluate some EO-1 Hyperion scenes provided by you and obtained promising results. However, we have previously waived an acquisition of larger parts of sedimentary basins, since we wanted to wait for the completion of the calibration work on groundtruth samples. It is therefore important that the satellite will remain available to be utilized by us to continue acquiring data in support of the proposed work through about April 2018.

Kind regards,

Martin H. Trauth