EXHIBIT 11
DATE 2/8/2005
HB

Fort Keogh Livestock and Range Research Laboratory

Customer Focus Group

November 2004

Subject: Support for MSU Extension Specialists at Fort Keogh

To: Whom It May Concern

From: Fort Keogh Customer Focus Group, Jim Courtney, Chair

Whereas, livestock production from rangeland resources is the major agricultural industry in Montana in terms of both receipts and affected land area, and

Whereas, the industry is in constant need of highly technical expertise in both the management of grazing livestock as salable products from rangelands and for the long-term sustainability of Montana rangeland resources, and

Whereas, the employment of a MSU Beef Cattle Extension Specialist headquartered at Fort Keogh has been shown to be a highly effective means of transferring technical expertise to producers throughout Central and Eastern Montana, and

Whereas, Fort Keogh has again agreed to provide free office space and associated support to MSU Extension Specialists at Fort Keogh, then

Therefore be it resolved that members of the USDA-ARS Fort Keogh Livestock and Range Research Laboratory Customer Focus Group strongly encourage the MSU Extension Service to direct funds as necessary to hire both a Beef Cattle and a Rangeland Management Extension Specialist to be officed at Fort Keogh in support of the Central and Eastern Montana rangeland agriculture (i.e., grazing) industry.

James Courtney