

Trent Clark
Chair

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WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

317 W Main Street, Boise, Idaho 83735-0510

Date: April 2, 2018

To: Workforce Development Council Members

From: Wendi Secrist

Subject: McCain Foods Workforce Development Training Fund Application

Attached is the application summary from McCain Foods requesting \$2.5m in Workforce Development Training Funds. I wanted to provide a little context for this request in advance of Thursday's meeting where you will be asked to take action:

- In December 2016, the former Department of Labor Director provided a letter of commitment to McCain Foods to provide \$2.5m in Workforce Development Training Funds to help secure the expansion of the plant in Idaho. The expansion will add 198 new positions.
- Staff have been working with the company to develop an application for well over a year. The application was submitted on March 14, 2018. McCain is investing over \$4.8m in training their existing and new employees.
- The Grant Review Committee reviewed the application on March 20 and is recommending funding for \$2.5m targeted to the training aspects providing transferrable skills and promotional opportunities.
- Jeff McCray, Plant Manager for McCain Foods, is a Workforce Development Council member. Immediately following this memo is a letter providing notice that he has a conflict of interest per our bylaws.
- This application meets the criteria under our existing policies and processes. As we are
 transitioning to our new role in approving funding requests, we will need to develop a process for
 the Council to issue letters of commitment, but the existing qualifications have been met.
- The application summary that is attached follows existing templates the Workforce Development Policy Committee is going to be reviewing all policies and processes with respect to the Workforce Development Training Fund and would be glad to have additional input into what the application summary should contain.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to reach out to me. You can either email me at wendi.secrist@wdc.idaho.gov or call (208) 488-7561. Thanks!