Boise State University December 31, 2019

College of Engineering

Department of Civil Engineering

1910 University Dr.

Boise, ID 83725

Re: Assistant Professor Search #190906

Dear Search Committee,

Enclosed is my application materials for the position Assistant Professor of Civil Engineering. The package includes my curriculum vitae and statements of research, teaching, and diversity, equity and inclusion. Amended to my curriculum vitae is a list of published and ongoing work as well as a list of references for the committee’s reference.

To Boise State University, I bring a diverse background and experience in water engineering as an academic, engineer, and operator. Currently, I am a PhD candidate in Civil and Environmental Engineering at the Colorado School of Mines under the advisement of Dr. Tzahi Cath and Dr. Amanda Hering. I am also an operator of a municipal wastewater treatment research facility on Mines campus and an engineer intern at the largest wastewater treatment facility in the Rocky Mountains, Metro Wastewater Reclamation District in Denver, CO. These experiences have been vital to the success of my research and shaped my approach to teaching; focusing on scientifically sound and operationally robust solutions to 21st century challenges to our water infrastructure.

I am fortunate to have brilliant and motivated advisors in the fields of engineering and statistics, and am interested in continuing my dissertation research into novel water and wastewater treatment technologies at bench, pilot, and full-scale using statistical and machine learning tools. To do this, I have collaborated with multiple departments including mathematics, computer science, and electrical engineering and have learned to effectively engage with persons of different technical backgrounds, abilities, and stations. Additionally, my participation and leadership in the ReNUWIt (Re-inventing our Nation’s Urban Water Infrastructure) NSF Engineering Research Center has prepared me to organize and conduct competitive Tier 1 research while retaining my unique focus and perspective.

I have co-instructed multiple water and wastewater treatment laboratory and design courses at Mines. My focus is to teach a holistic understanding of engineering problems as opposed to a solely technical understanding. In this way, students can identify novel solutions that address concerns from a variety of stakeholders. To achieve this, I believe I need to bring diverse, inclusive, and accessible teaching and mentoring into my classroom and laboratory and continue to evaluate and educate myself and my practices to be the best professor I can.

Being from Missoula, MT, I am very interested in returning to the northwest to continue my academic career. I am confident that my qualifications, experience, and drive will fit well with Boise State University and am looking forward to the opportunity to teach, mentor, and research. My proposal defense is scheduled for early January and am anticipating my dissertation defense in August 2020. Please do not hesitate to contact me by phone or email with questions or for further information.

Sincerely,

Kate Newhart