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January 26, 2009

Dr. Thomas Kenkmann
Museum für Naturkunde
Leibniz Institute for Research on Evolution and Biodiversity
Humboldt University Berlin
10115 Berlin
Germany

Dear Dr. Kenkmann,

As Governor of the great State of Utah, it is my pleasure to thank you for your outstanding research on Upheaval Dome in Utah's amazing Canyonlands National Park. We were fortunate enough to learn of your work through Mr. Kurt Fisher of Salt Lake City, Utah. Our State Science Advisor, Dr. Tamara Goetz took the opportunity to read several of your publications and reported the most recent results using TEM are fascinating and make significant contributions to helping understand the geological phenomena that contributed to the origin of the Upheaval Dome formation. The controversy regarding the origin of this unique natural wonder has been ongoing and it is exciting to see how your work is helping answer many of these intriguing scientific questions.

A testimony to the excellence and excitement of your work is that several of our high school educators are working to create new curriculum materials based upon your recent publications. Your work on Upheaval Dome is very engaging to young students and provides an avenue to help them understand the nature of scientific inquiry. It has the additional benefit of providing this insight through a local natural geological feature.

Again, congratulations on your success and my best to you for continued success in your work. We look forward to your future publications.

Sincerely,

Jon M. Huntsman, Jr.
Governor

Cc: Dr. Tamara L. Goetz
Kurt A. Fisher