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Title: International Symposium on Free Radicals – August 12 – 17, 2007

This grant provided partial support for the 29th International Symposium on Free Radicals, held August 12-17, 2007 at the Big Sky Resort in Big Sky, Montana. This meeting dates back to 1956, and is the premier international meeting focusing on the structure and dynamics of reactive free radicals. Free radicals and other reactive species remain topics of great interest today owing to the central role they play as reactive intermediates. Of particular relevance to the DOE mission in Basic Energy Sciences is the fact that nearly all combustion reactions are initiated by radicals, and a number of radical intermediates are important to almost any combusting system. The field has expanded to increasingly focus on the dynamics of radical reactions in addition to spectroscopy and kinetics. As we seek to understand complex environments in combustion, atmospheric chemistry, condensed phase phenomena and the interstellar medium in great detail, studies of free radicals remain essential. The meeting in Montana lived up to the long tradition of this meeting by bringing together leading researchers, including a large group of postdoctoral scholars and graduate students, from around the globe to advance this important area of science. The DOE grant helped to support participant costs (lodging and meals) for 24 invited speakers and 21 graduate students and postdoctoral fellows.