

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

March 2, 1999

The Speaker of the

House of Representatives

Sir:

In accordance with provisions of P.L. 105-277, the Omnibus Consolidated and Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act, 1999, I hereby request the following:

**Department of Energy**

- Atomic Energy Defense Activities, Other Defense Activities: \$525,000,000

These funds will help reduce the amount of excess fissile material in Russia and, consequently, the risk that such material could be diverted by terrorists or other illicit groups attempting to obtain nuclear weapons capabilities. Within the total, \$325,000,000 will be made available to purchase natural uranium associated with the United States-Russia High Enriched Uranium (HEU) Purchase Agreement, and \$200,000,000 will be made available to implement a United States/Russian accord for the disposition of excess weapons plutonium.

I hereby designate the above request as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended.

The details of this action are set forth in the enclosed letter from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget. I concur with his comments and observations.

Sincerely,



Enclosure



THE DIRECTOR

**EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT**  
**OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET**  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

March 2, 1999

The President

The White House

Submitted for your consideration is a request to make available a total of \$525 million in previously appropriated contingent emergency funds for the Department of Energy.

P.L. 105-277, the Omnibus Consolidated and Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act, 1999, provided \$325 million to the Department of Energy to purchase natural uranium under the United States-Russia High Enriched Uranium (HEU) Purchase Agreement and \$200 million to implement a United States/Russian accord for the disposition of excess weapons plutonium. The availability of each amount was made contingent upon the President submitting a budget request to the Congress that includes designation of the entire amount as an emergency requirement.

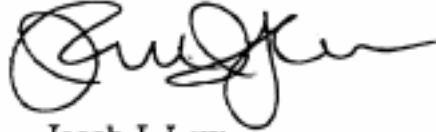
Both appropriations are urgently needed to reduce the amount of excess fissile material in Russia and, consequently, the risk that such material could be diverted by terrorists or other illicit groups attempting to obtain nuclear weapons capabilities.

I recommend that you designate the entire \$525 million as an emergency requirement in accordance with section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended.

In the case of each appropriation, P.L. 105-277 includes additional provisos that must be met before the funds may be obligated. For example, the funds to purchase natural uranium will be available only upon development of a long-term agreement by the Government of the Russian Federation and commercial partners for the sale of uranium to be derived from deliveries scheduled for 1999 and thereafter. Such an agreement is in the final stages of negotiation and should be concluded shortly. The Office of Management and Budget will use the apportionment process and other means available to ensure that the funds are not obligated until this and all other legal requirements have been met.

I have carefully reviewed these proposals and am satisfied that they are necessary at this time. Therefore, I recommend that you make the requested funds available by signing the enclosed letter to the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jacob J. Lew". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Jacob J. Lew  
Director

Enclosure

**EMERGENCY APPROPRIATIONS: AMOUNTS PREVIOUSLY APPROPRIATED  
MADE AVAILABLE BY THE PRESIDENT**

**Department of Energy**

Atomic Energy Defense Activities:

Other Defense Activities..... \$525,000,000

Division B, Title I, Chapter 2 of P.L. 105-277, the Omnibus Consolidated and Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act, 1999, provided \$525 million in emergency funding for Other Defense Activities contingent upon the President submitting a budget request to the Congress and designating the entire amount requested as an emergency requirement.

These funds will help reduce the amount of excess fissile material in Russia and, consequently, the risk that such material could be diverted by terrorists or other illicit groups attempting to obtain nuclear weapons capabilities. Within the total, \$325,000,000 will be made available to purchase natural uranium associated with the United States-Russia High Enriched Uranium (HEU) Purchase Agreement, and \$200,000,000 will be made available to implement a United States/Russian accord for the disposition of excess weapons plutonium.