

July XX, 2019

The Honorable Donald J. Trump
President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20002

Mr. President:

We write to applaud the recent announcement from the Administration of its intent to take more actions to protect our national and economic security from reliance on foreign supplies of critical minerals. The list of 35 critical minerals encompasses necessary materials for clean energy production, nuclear deterrence, and enabling our smartphones to connect us with information and people from around the World. The U.S. has become too dependent on foreign powers for these essential components of our economy and defense.

Mr. President, another decision to support increased domestic production of one of these critical minerals is currently awaiting your attention. Last month, Secretary Ross sent the White House a report generated by a 9-month long Section 232 investigation into the national security impacts of imported uranium. While the report is not currently available to Congress, our country's growing dependence on foreign, state-owned sources of uranium is a threat to the national security and taking action to secure the domestic free market supply of this critical mineral is a national security imperative.

Our 98 domestic operating nuclear power plant reactors require roughly 50 million pounds of uranium annually. Domestic production for calendar year 2019 is on pace to be a fraction of 1% of total demand and we will import roughly 99% of what we need from unstable foreign adversaries; namely Russia, Kazakhstan and China.

There is no reason America should be importing 97-99% of the uranium necessary for domestic reactors from countries with Russian influence when we have an ample supply here at home that will create good-paying jobs and be mined under higher standards that protect our environment.

You consistently have acted to put America first and to stand up to practices our strategic adversaries have undertaken to broaden their control of certain markets to spread their geopolitical influence, often in direct conflict with our own national interest. Due to the efforts of Russia and China to control the uranium market and domestic users' near-total reliance on imports, we believe that acting in support of domestic uranium production will put more Americans to work and make our country more secure – that's a good deal.

It is my hope that your actions in support of critical minerals, American energy dominance and national security will revitalize the entire domestic fuel cycle and put America back on the path to reclaiming the important role of global nuclear leadership that has been taken by our strategic adversaries.

Sincerely,