

## COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

WASHINGTON, DC 20515

April 27, 2018

The Honorable Steven Mnuchin  
U.S. Department of the Treasury  
1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20220

Dear Secretary Mnuchin,

We write to express our concern regarding a recent announcement by the U.S. Department of the Treasury to ease sanctions against the Russian aluminum producer United Company RUSAL PLC (RUSAL).

The General License 14 issued by Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) on April 23<sup>rd</sup> allows RUSAL or any other entity in which RUSAL owns, directly or indirectly, a 50 percent or greater interest, to continue maintenance or wind down activities until October 23, 2018 (an extension from June 5). The general license authorizes the use of blocked funds for these activities and permits U.S. persons to allow transactions authorized by General License 14 that occur on or after April 23, 2018.

As part of this action, the Administration has indicated that it will consider lifting sanctions against RUSAL altogether if its major shareholder, Oleg Deripaska, divests and relinquishes control of the company.

These activities grossly contradict previous action taken by the Administration against Oleg Deripaska and RUSAL. On April 6, 2018, Treasury identified Deripaska as one of seven Russian oligarchs that profit from a corrupt Russian system that engages in destabilizing activities around the world. Simultaneously, OFAC designated the parent company of RUSAL, EN+ Group, as being owned or controlled by, directly or indirectly, Deripaska and other entities he owns or controls.

We remain deeply troubled by Russia's recent interference in the U.S. 2016 elections and malicious cyber-attacks. President Trump's personal reluctance to hold the Kremlin responsible for these activities despite the U.S. intelligence community's affirmative conclusions regarding Russian interference further heightens our concerns. In March, OFAC rightly designated five entities and 19 individuals under the Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act (CAATSA) and Executive Order 13694, "Blocking the Property of Certain Persons Engaging in

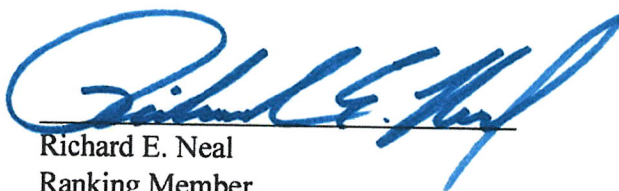
Significant Malicious Cyber-Enabled Activities,” as amended, to confront and counter malign Russian cyber activity. The Administration should continue to take aggressive actions that hold Russia accountable for the unacceptable subversive activities it has taken against the United States and our allies around the globe.

We ask the Administration to provide written answers to the following questions by May 11, 2018:

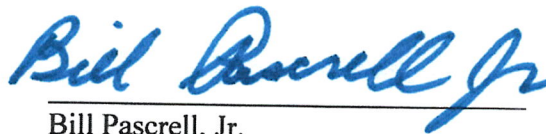
1. Why has the Administration extended sanctions relief for RUSAL?
2. Why does the Administration view relinquishment of control of the company by Deripaska as sufficient action for lifting sanctions against RUSAL?
3. Who made the decision to extend relief for RUSAL? Please provide the name and title of each Treasury employee or official who was consulted and/or approved the extended sanctions relief, and the date of such consultation or approval.
4. Were any White House employees or officials involved in this decision? If so, please provide the name and title of each White House employee or official who was consulted and/or approved the extended sanctions relief, and the date of such consultation or approval.

In addition to providing a written response to our concerns, we respectfully request that you brief our staff on this matter by Friday, May 4, 2018. As always, we appreciate your prompt response, and we look forward to working together to ensure that we take strong action against malicious state actors such as Russia.

Sincerely,



Richard E. Neal  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Ways and Means



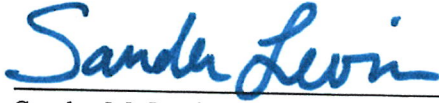
Bill Pascrell, Jr.  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Trade  
Committee on Ways and Means



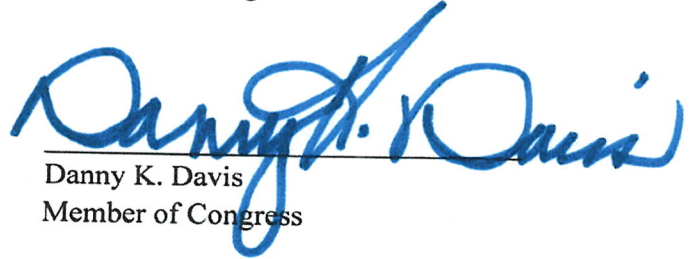
Ron Kind  
Member of Congress



Lloyd Doggett  
Member of Congress



Sander M. Levin  
Member of Congress



Danny K. Davis  
Member of Congress



Brian Higgins  
Member of Congress