THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 20, 1976

The Speaker of the

House of Representatives

Sir:

I ask the Congress to consider a supplemental appropriation for the fiscal year 1977 in the amount of \$200,000,000 for the Department of the Interior.

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

Respectfully,

Gerald R. Ford

Enclosure



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

September 20, 1976

The President

The White House

Sir:

I have the honor to submit for your consideration a proposed supplemental appropriation in the amount of \$200,000,000 for the fiscal year 1977 for the Department of the Interior. Details of this proposal are contained in the enclosure to this letter.

I have carefully reviewed this proposal and I am satisfied that it is necessary at this time. I recommend, therefore, that this proposal be transmitted to the Congress.

Respectfully,

James T. Lynn Director

Enclosure

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

Construction and Rehabilitation

For an additional amount for "Construction and rehabilitation", to remain available until expended; \$200,000,000: Provided, That this additional amount may be made available without reimbursement:

Provided further, That this appropriation is for the payment of claims for damages to or loss of property, personal injury or death proximately resulting from the failure on June 5, 1976 of the Teton River dam, in accordance with such rules and regulations of the Secretary of the Interior as may be necessary and proper for the purpose of administering such claims and of determining the amounts to be allowed pursuant to this appropriation and the persons entitled to receive the same: Provided further, That nothing herein shall be construed to impose any liability on the United States or to allow for payment of claims that are paid or payable from any other source, public or private.

These funds are needed to provide compensation for damages caused by the recent failure of the Teton Dam in Idaho.