January 14, 2011

MEMORANDUM FOR DEPUTY ASSOCIATE DIRECTORS AND BRANCH CHIEFS

FROM: Jacob J. Lew
       Director

SUBJECT: Review of Congressional Testimony on Scientific Issues

In accordance with the President’s March 9, 2009, Memorandum on “Scientific Integrity,” and consistent with the additional guidance issued by the Office of Science and Technology Policy in response to the President’s Memorandum, I am providing the following instructions to OMB staff to reinforce our policy with respect to OMB review of draft Executive Branch testimony on scientific issues prepared for presentation to the Congress:

In no instance should OMB staff alter witness statements reporting their own scientific research. If the witness wishes to report such research, the witness may do so. In that event, OMB staff may request that the witness include other relevant scientific evidence where appropriate, and the sources of all such evidence should be clearly identified in the testimony. If the testimony does not accurately reflect Administration policy and changes are necessary for it to do so, the witness may nonetheless testify without making those changes, provided that the testimony clearly states that the views given represent the personal and professional views of the witness and not the views of the Administration. In the event of any dispute with the witness or the witness’ agency, OMB staff should raise the matter to an appropriate level for resolution.


2 http://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/microsites/ostp/scientific-integrity-memo-12172010.pdf