



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
International Trade Administration
Washington, D.C. 20230

DEC 01 2016

The Honorable Kevin J. Wolf
Assistant Secretary for Export Administration
Bureau of Industry and Security, Room 3886
U.S. Department of Commerce
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Mr. Wolf:

I am writing to request the support of the Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS) Office of Technology Evaluation (OTE) in the initiation of a survey and assessment of the United States (U.S.) semiconductor design and fabrication industrial base. The principal goal of this effort would be to gain a better understanding of the current capabilities of companies engaged in 1) the design and manufacture of integrated circuits and other semiconductor products; and 2) the manufacture of associated production equipment and materials.

The International Trade Administration (ITA) is requesting that BIS perform this study to update its 2009 report on U.S. integrated circuit design and fabrication capability, and to provide additional supply chain information not addressed in that study. This critical information is needed to help inform U.S. Government reviews of policies affecting the U.S. semiconductor manufacturing industry.

ITA's Office of Health and Information Technologies tracks the competitiveness of the U.S. semiconductor industry, but does not have access to detailed information on the specific manufacturing capabilities of U.S. semiconductor product companies nor their equipment suppliers. OTE's comprehensive assessment of the health and competitiveness of the industry will provide vital information to ITA, the Departments of Defense and Energy, and other federal agencies that will inform future decision making.

If you have any questions, please contact Robin Roark, Information Technologies Team Lead, Office of Health and Information Technologies, at 202-482-3090, or robin.roark@trade.gov.

I appreciate your consideration of this request and look forward to the opportunity to work with OTE on this important effort.

Sincerely,

Ted Dean
Acting Assistant Secretary
for Industry and Analysis

