Dated: July 10, 2018.
Gary Taeverman,
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Antidumping
and Countervailing Duty Operations,
performing the non-exclusive functions and
duties of the Assistant Secretary for
Enforcement and Compliance.

Appendix—List of Topics Discussed in
the Issues and Decision Memorandum

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II. Scope of the Order
III. Period of Review
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VI. Analysis of Comments
Comment 1: Whether Hyundai Steel and
Hyundai Green Power Are Cross-Owned
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Comment 2: Whether the Government of
Korea Purchased Electricity From
Hyundai Green Power for More Than
Adequate Remuneration During the POR
VII. Recommendation

[FR Doc. 2018–15137 Filed 7–13–18; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 3510–DS–P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Institute of Standards and
Technology

Current and Future Workforce Needs
to Support a Strong Domestic
Semiconductor Industry

AGENCY: National Institute of Standards and
Technology, Department of
Commerce.

ACTION: Notice; Request for Information (RFI).

SUMMARY: The National Institute of
Standards and Technology (NIST) on
behalf of the Department of Commerce and
the National Security Council is
seeking information on the scope and
sufficiency of efforts to educate, train,
and attract the workforce necessary
to meet the demands of the current and
future semiconductor industry, in
support of the President’s National
Security Strategy.

DATES: Comments must be received by
5:00 p.m. Eastern time on August 15,
2018. Written comments in response to
this RFI should be submitted in
accordance with the instructions in the
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION sections below.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
Submissions received after that
date may not be considered.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
To respond to this RFI, please submit written comments by
e-mail to semiwkf@nist.gov in any of the
following formats: ASCII; Word; RTF; or
PDF. Please include your name,
organization’s name (if any), and cite
“Semiconductor Workforce RFI” in the
subject line of all correspondence.

Comments not sent by any other method, to
any other address or individual, or
received after the end of the comment
period, may not be considered. All
personal identifying information (e.g.,
name, address) submitted voluntarily by
the sender will be publicly accessible.

Do not submit confidential business
information, or otherwise sensitive or
protected information. Attachments to
electronic comments will be accepted in
Microsoft Word or Excel, or Adobe PDF
formats.

Comments containing references,
studies, research, and other empirical
data that are not widely published
should include electronic copies of the
referred materials. Please do not
submit additional materials.

All submissions, including
attachments and other supporting
materials, will become part of the public
record and subject to public disclosure.
Sensitive personal information, such as
account numbers or Social Security
numbers, or names of other individuals,
should not be included. Submissions
will not be edited to remove any
identifying or contact information. Do
not submit confidential business
information, or otherwise sensitive or
protected information. Comments that
contain profanity, vulgarity, threats, or
other inappropriate language or content
will not be considered.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For
questions about this RFI contact: Jason
Boehm or David Seiler, U.S. Department
of Commerce, National Institute of
Standards and Technology, at 301–975–
8678 or 301–975–2074.

Please direct media inquiries to
Jennifer Huergo in the NIST Public
Affairs Office at jennifer.huergo@
nist.gov, (301) 975–6343.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION: President
Trump’s National Security Strategy,1
released in December of 2017,
specifically highlights the importance of
emerging technologies to economic
growth and security, including advances
in data science, encryption, autonomous
technologies, new materials, advanced
computing technologies, and artificial
intelligence—all of which are powered
by and dependent upon continued
advances in semiconductor technology.

Maintaining the technological edge of
the United States in this critical
industry area requires a robust domestic
workforce. As part of the National
Security Strategy, the United States will
seek to maintain and develop the
necessary workforce through a

1 https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/
multifaceted approach including
enhanced support for K–12,
undergraduate, and graduate STEM
education (with a particular focus on
semiconductor technology), targeted
technical training, internship and
apprenticeship programs, and
cooperative education programs.

Responses to this RFI will inform
recommendations to the National
Security Council on steps the
Administration can take to strengthen
the technical workforce that supports
the semiconductor and related
industries. The report will assist the
scope and sufficiency of efforts to
create and train the future American
semiconductor workforce from primary
through higher education, and provide
recommendations and a plan on how
the government will continue to support
the growth and sustainment of this
workforce to meet the needs of both the
private and public sectors.

In this RFI, NIST seeks specific
information from stakeholders of the
semiconductor industry such as
materials providers, equipment
suppliers, manufacturers, designers,
trade associations, educational
institutions, government entities, and
other interested parties about the
workforce needs of the semiconductor
industry, and potential efforts to
strengthen the current and future
workforce. In this request, the term
“semiconductor” broadly refers to
semiconductor materials, devices,
sensors, integrated circuits, computing
architectures, software tools, design,
lithography, fabrication, testing,
packaging, embedded software and
firmware developers, and related

technologies that, through a
combination of materials processing,
manufacturing, and application, form
the foundation and basis for the
semiconductor, memory, technology
manufacturing, computing, and
information technology industry sectors.

NIST seeks information that will
assist U.S. Government efforts in
developing recommendations for
supporting the growth and sustainment
of the Nation’s semiconductor
workforce to meet the current and future
needs of the public and private sectors.
Our goal is to gather input that will be
utilized to refine and target relevant
federal resources and programs to
attract, educate, and train the necessary
advanced technical workforce
necessary to ensure that the U.S. maintains
a robust semiconductor industrial base,
including the fundamental research
needed to continue to innovate in
semiconductor technology. It is
necessary to drive future advances in
transformational technologies including
artificial intelligence (AI), advanced and quantum computing, and autonomous systems.

Request for Information

Respondents are encouraged—but not required—to respond to any or all of the following questions, and may address related topics. Please identify the questions or topic areas each of your comments addresses. The following questions cover the major areas about which NIST seeks comment. These questions are directed towards domestic semiconductor manufacturers, associated supporting industries, educational institutions, and their stakeholders. Responses may include estimates. Please indicate where the response is an estimate.

Respondents may organize their submissions in response to this RFI in any manner, and all responses that comply with the requirements listed in the DATES and ADDRESSES sections of this notice will be considered.

Comments containing references, studies, research, and other empirical data that are not widely published should include electronic copies of the referenced materials. Do not include in comments or otherwise submit proprietary or confidential information. Comments that contain profanity, vulgarity, threats, or inappropriate language or content will not be considered.

Basic Information

Briefly describe your company or organization in terms of:

a. What is the name of your company or organization?

b. How is your company or organization involved with the semiconductor industry (e.g., industry association, university, company involved in semiconductor design, fabrication, package test and assembly, or other)?

Workforce Challenges and Needs

1. When hiring technical staff, for what types of positions do you encounter the most difficulty in finding qualified employees?

   a. Have you been able to identify any causes for these difficulties in finding qualified staff (high competition for a specific talent pool, lack of experienced individuals, educational programs not directly aligned with your needs, etc.)

   b. Have you been able to identify any causes for these difficulties in finding qualified staff (high competition for a specific talent pool, lack of experienced individuals, educational programs not directly aligned with your needs, etc.)

2. Are there specific educational levels that are needed for your current workforce?

   a. Are there some educational levels where it is harder to find qualified staff?

   b. Have you been able to identify any causes for these difficulties in finding qualified staff (high competition for a specific talent pool, lack of experienced individuals, educational programs not directly aligned with your needs, etc.)

3. Are there certain factors relating to workforce needs that your company or organization prioritizes when locating a new facility, for example a strong base of existing talent, a robust local educational ecosystem, etc.?

4. How do you see the workforce needs of your company or organization changing over the next 5 years, 10 years, 15 years?

   a. Do you think that certain levels of education will be more important?

   b. Are there fields of training that you think will be more important?

5. As the industry continues to evolve and develop and integrate new technologies (e.g., new computing paradigms, new material systems, broader use of AI) are there skillsets that you see as becoming more important?

   a. Do you have an opinion on the types of training needed to develop these skillsets for the future?

   b. From your experience are there types of partnerships with federal agencies and/or educational institutions that would be helpful to prepare your workforce for the future?

6. Are there certain obstacles that you see as the biggest impediment to meeting your workforce needs? For example, a lack of aligned educational programs (including internship and apprenticeship opportunities), a lack of collaboration with such educational programs, a lack of students in science and engineering, a lack of interest in your industry, a lack of facilities with appropriate equipment to train workers (e.g., community colleges without access to fabrication equipment/facilities), or other issues? Please describe.

Potential Workforce Solutions

7. Are there specific approaches your company or organization utilizes to address your workforce needs? For example, tailored partnerships and curricula with regional universities and community colleges, internship or apprenticeship programs, training or retraining of displaced workers, or other approaches?

8. Are there certain approaches or actions that would most effectively stimulate the supply of qualified workers for the semiconductor industry in the near term (e.g., targeted scholarships including internships/apprenticeships, loan repayment incentives, procurement of specialized equipment for schools and universities, immigration and visa reform, etc.)?

9. What approaches do you think would most effectively stimulate the supply of qualified workers for the semiconductor industry over the long term (e.g., professional development opportunities for K–12 teachers and K–12 student programs such as camps, competitions and projects in the semiconductor space)?

10. Although apprenticeship has, in the past, been available mostly to those in the traditional trades, efforts are now underway to expand apprenticeship into new fields, including advanced manufacturing, IT, healthcare, energy supply and distribution, banking and finance and engineering (in partnership with four-year institutions). Have you considered engaging in apprenticeship training to prepare your workforce? Why or why not?

11. Are there examples of partnerships with local educational institutions (e.g., a work-study program) that you use to support your operations?

12. Are there types of support (grants, economic development incentives or other benefits) from federal, state and local government agencies that have helped enable your workforce? Of these types of support what makes them most effective?


Kevin A. Kimball, Chief of Staff.

[FR Doc. 2018–15077 Filed 7–13–18; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RIN 0648–XG304

Fisheries of the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, and South Atlantic; Reef Fish Fishery of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands; Exempted Fishing Permit

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of receipt of an application for an exempted fishing permit; request for comments.

SUMMARY: NMFS announces the receipt of an application for an exempted fishing permit (EFP) from the NMFS Panama City, FL laboratory. If granted, the EFP would authorize NMFS’ or NMFS contracted commercial fishers aboard their commercial fishing vessels