OCT 28 2016

The Honorable Richard C. Shelby Chairman, Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I hereby report to the Congress the export licensing actions taken by the Department of Commerce's Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS) relating to exports and reexports of agricultural commodities to Cuba from July 1 through September 30, 2016, as required by Section 906(b) of the Trade Sanctions Reform and Export Enhancement Act of 2000 (TSRA) (Title IX of Pub. L. 106-387), as amended.

During the reporting period, BIS processed 29 notifications under License Exception Agricultural Commodities (AGR) for exports to Cuba. BIS approved 21 notifications, on average within 10 days. BIS returned 8 notifications without action in five days, due to errors and deficiencies. BIS also returned without action five standard export license applications for the export of AGR-eligible commodities, on average within 13 days, for resubmission as AGR notifications. Notifications and applications for the export of AGR-eligible commodities that are returned without action are routinely re-submitted and generally approved.

Sincerely yours,

Eric L. Hirschhorn

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