

OCT 19 2015

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, 2015. Section 906(b) of the Trade Sanctions Reform and Export Enhancement Act of 2000 (TSRA) (Title IX of Pub. L. 106-387), as amended, requires this report.

During the reporting period, BIS processed 19 notifications under License Exception Agricultural Commodities (AGR) for exports to Cuba. We approved 16 notifications in an average of eight days. We returned two without action in two days, due to errors and deficiencies. We converted one notification into an export license application in order to assist the submitter with structuring the request properly. We approved the resulting application in fifteen days. We processed 10 standard license applications for exports of AGR-eligible commodities to Cuba during the reporting period. We approved three standard license applications within an average of 14 days. We returned without action seven standard export license applications in an average of four days for exports of AGR-eligible commodities, either for resubmission as an AGR notification or to address errors and deficiencies. 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

