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Analog Devices, Incorporated

**Steve Laub**  
*Chief Executive Officer*  
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**Mark Thompson**  
*Chairman, President & CEO*  
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**Gregg Lowe**  
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Qualcomm

**Richard K. Templeton**  
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Texas Instruments Inc.

**Brian Toohy**  
*President & CEO*  
Semiconductor Industry Association

June 27, 2013

The Honorable Harry Reid  
Senate Majority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Senate Republican Leader  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Leader Reid and Leader McConnell:

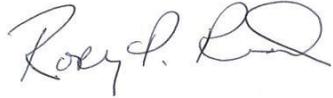
On behalf of the U.S. semiconductor industry, the Board of Directors of the Semiconductor Industry Association (SIA) urges that the Senate take immediate action to approve the bipartisan "Helium Stewardship Act of 2013" (S.783). This bill was recently approved by the Energy and Natural Resources Committee, and passage of this legislation is urgently needed to avoid a needless disruption to the helium supply and the resulting damage to the semiconductor industry and to the U.S. economy in general.

Helium's unique physical and chemical properties have made it critical to the manufacture of advanced semiconductors and other technology products; it also has important uses in scientific and military applications. Much of the U.S. and global supply of helium is provided by the Federal Helium Reserve, and under current law, the Reserve will soon lose its authorization to sell helium to U.S. industry. The cessation of sales of helium from the Reserve will exacerbate the current supply shortages and price increases in this essential gas that are already causing disruption to U.S. semiconductor manufacturing and other industries. The need for action is urgent – the deadline for action is October 7, only seven legislative weeks away.

The U.S. semiconductor industry accounts for approximately a quarter of a million direct employees, and over one million indirect employees. It is also one of our nation's leading export industries. More significantly, because semiconductors enable virtually all aspects of our modern economy and national defense, the damage to the U.S. semiconductor industry resulting from disruption of the helium market would harm the U.S. economy as a whole.

The House has passed bipartisan helium legislation, and it is critical that the Senate act promptly to pass a bill, work with the House, and send a bill to the President.

Sincerely,



Rory P. Read  
President and CEO  
Advanced Micro Devices



John P. Daane  
Chairman, President & CEO  
Altera



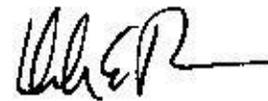
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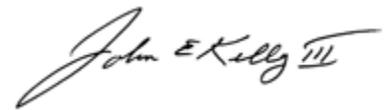
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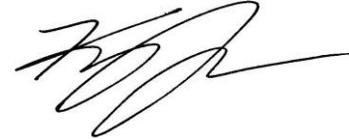
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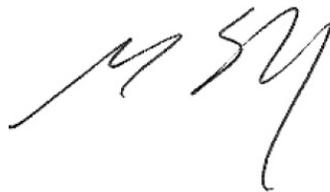
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