



June 13, 2006

The Honorable David H. McCormick  
Under Secretary for Industry and Security  
Bureau of Industry and Security  
Department of Commerce  
Room 3989, Herbert C. Hoover Building  
Washington, DC 20230

Facsimile Transmission: 202/482-2387

Dear Secretary McCormick:

On behalf of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), I would like to thank you for your efforts to work with the scientific, national security, and business communities as the Department considered proposed rules to revise deemed export controls.

The May 31, 2006, notice that the Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS) planned to withdraw the March 28, 2005 Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPR) was welcome news to the research community and to members of AAAS. We were particularly pleased that BIS will continue to adhere to the existing definition of “use” technology and to issue license requirements based on an individual’s country of citizenship or permanent residency.

This recognition mirrors the 1982 AAAS Board of Directors resolution that “freedom and national security are best preserved by adherence to the principles of openness that are a fundamental tenet of both American society and of the scientific process.”

At the same time, we recognize that BIS has an obligation to protect against the unauthorized transfer of technologies that could compromise our national security. In this regard, we look forward to the pending work of the Deemed Export Advisory Committee (DEAC), applaud your efforts to ensure that its membership reflects a diversity of expertise, and offer our assistance to the Committee as it proceeds.

Sincerely,

Alan I. Leshner