U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE FOIA READING ROOM CERTIFICATION (October 2008)

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Reading Rooms are maintained in the following operating units of the Department of Commerce: Office of the Secretary, U.S. Census Bureau, Economic Development Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, International Trade Administration, National Institute of Standards and Technology, National Technical Information Service, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

Internal reviews of each operating unit's FOIA Reading Rooms were conducted. Two operating units, the U.S. Census Bureau and the Bureau of Industry and Security identified deficiencies. The U.S. Census Bureau (Census) review identified the absence of a "frequently requested records" section in the Electronic FOIA Reading Room. A new frequently requested records section was added to the Census Electronic FOIA Reading Room and will be maintained. The Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS) review identified one deficiency. The index of documents provided in the BIS Electronic FOIA Reading Room was not specifically listed as "frequently requested records." BIS has modified the language in the Electronic FOIA Reading Room to indicate that the information listed in the index of documents are "frequently requested records."

We have reviewed our FOIA Reading Rooms and determined that after addressing the deficiencies listed above, the Department complies with all legal requirements for FOIA Reading Rooms.

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Chief FOIA Officer

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