



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

January 22, 2024

The Honorable Gina Raimondo
Secretary
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Secretary Raimondo,

We write today to urge the U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce)'s Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS) to investigate four companies based in the People's Republic of China (PRC) for inclusion on the Commerce Entity List.¹ These companies supply goods and services to the People's Liberation Army (PLA), the government of North Korea, China's Ministry of Public Security, companies engaged in the genocide of Uyghur Muslims in Xinjiang, and companies already on the Commerce Entity List.

Over the last several months, the Committees have been jointly investigating the proposed partnership between Ford Motor Company (Ford) and Contemporary Amperex Co. Limited (CATL) to build a new electric vehicle battery plant in Marshall, Michigan. As part of our investigation, we have reviewed portions of Ford's signed agreements with CATL. According to the agreements, the four troubling PRC companies described below will be intimately involved in the proposed U.S. battery facility's design, construction, and information technology (IT) processes. Based on the information provided below and additional information that the Committees are willing to provide to Commerce in a closed-door setting, we request that Commerce investigate and urgently place the following companies on the Entity List to safeguard American interests, supply chains, and the billions of taxpayer dollars that the CATL-Ford facility will receive.

¹ The four companies include: (1) [REDACTED],
(2) [REDACTED], (3) [REDACTED], and (4) [REDACTED].
[REDACTED]

² Documents on file with the Committees.

enhance the security of user access across diverse systems and applications within an organization.³

According to publicly available information reviewed by the Committees, [REDACTED] supplies IT goods and services to the Shenyang Institute of Automation (SIA), which is a subordinate institute controlled by the Chinese Academy of Sciences. SIA is designated on the BIS Entity List because of its “support of [PRC] military applications.”

In theory, unified authentication software could help protect Ford’s sensitive systems and data. However, account authentication also creates a single point of failure—and in this case, places that single point of failure in the hands of a company with direct ties to the PRC’s military-civil fusion system. Before the Ford plant even comes online, its entire security system could be compromised by this software.

[REDACTED]

Under another agreement, Ford will outsource its Business Process Management (BPM) software tool to [REDACTED]. A BPM tool enables businesses to model, automate, execute, monitor, and improve their processes systematically. BPM tools provide a visual representation of workflows, allowing users to identify bottlenecks, redundancies, and areas for improvement.

[REDACTED] supports the ongoing genocide of Uyghur Muslims in Xinjiang and contracts with the PLA. According to publicly available information reviewed by the Committees, [REDACTED] supplies goods and services to China’s Ministry of Public Security’s Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region Public Security Department. This agency was sanctioned by Treasury under Executive Order 13818 given its ongoing facilitation of the genocide of Uyghur Muslims. [REDACTED] also supplies goods and services to Xinjiang Zhicheng Yuanchuang Information Technology Co., Ltd.—a Xinjiang-based company that is directly linked to Uyghur forced labor.

To summarize, a cursory review of publicly available information uncovered the above-mentioned companies’ direct ties to the PLA, the CCP, China’s Ministry of Public Security, the ongoing genocide of Uyghur Muslims in Xinjiang, and the North Korean government

We respectfully request that you urgently investigate and add the following four companies on the Commerce Entity List:

1. [REDACTED]

³ This software offers centralized management of authentication policies, user permissions, and access controls, in theory helping organizations strengthen their security posture while simplifying user experiences.

2. [REDACTED]
3. [REDACTED]
4. [REDACTED]

Please provide the Committees by February 5, 2024 with a written notice regarding your decision to include the four companies on the Commerce Entity List. If you decide against their inclusion, please provide the Committees with a follow-up briefing to explain your reasoning.

To make arrangements to deliver a response or to discuss the information on file with the Committees to better inform your decision, please contact Select Committee on China staff at (202) 308-8977, Ways and Means Committee staff at (202) 225-3625, and Energy and Commerce staff at (202) 225-3641.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter and prompt reply.

Sincerely,



Mike Gallagher
Chairman
House Select Committee on the CCP



Cathy McMorris Rodgers
Chair
House Committee on Energy and Commerce