

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

---

BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

---

TAIWAN SEMICONDUCTOR MANUFACTURING COMPANY LTD.,  
Petitioner,

v.

MARLIN SEMICONDUCTOR LIMITED,  
Patent Owner.

---

Case No. IPR2026-00130  
U.S. Patent No. 9,318,609 B2

---

**DECLARATION OF PAUL AHERN REGARDING PATENT OWNER'S  
REQUEST FOR DISCRETIONARY DENIAL OF INSTITUTION**

I, Paul Ahern, declare:

1. I am over eighteen years of age, and I have personal knowledge of the facts contained in this declaration.

2. I am a Director at Marlin Semiconductor Ltd. (“Marlin”). I have held this position since July 2022. In this role, I am involved in overseeing the company’s intellectual property strategy, including the prosecution, maintenance, enforcement, and licensing of Marlin’s patent portfolio.

3. Marlin has licensed U.S. Patent Number 9,318,609 (“the ’609 patent”) to Intel Corporation and Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd., which operate in and import licensed products into the United States.

4. In 2024, Marlin had discussions with Petitioner Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company Ltd. (“TSMC”) regarding TSMC’s infringement of Marlin’s patents and the need for TSMC to take a license. On August 8, 2024, Marlin made a proposal to TSMC for a license to the Marlin portfolio. TSMC refused to take a license. Marlin continued to negotiate and attempted to reach an amicable solution by which TSMC would license the ’609 patent, but TSMC refused to do so.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on: January 23, 2026



---

Paul Ahern  
Director  
Marlin Semiconductor Ltd.