

Article Links

Date: 2-24-2023

Committee: Joint Committee on Semiconductors

Bill Number/topic title: Discussion of Senate Bill 4 (2023) (LC 4320, relating to economic development) – Informational Meeting

Submitted by: Sam Diaz, 1000 Friends of Oregon

Title: *Inside Taiwanese Chip Giant, a U.S. Expansion Stokes Tensions*
Employee doubts are rising about Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company's \$40 billion investment in an Arizona factory. February 23, 2023

https://www.nytimes.com/2023/02/22/technology/tsmc-arizona-factory-tensions.html?nl=todaysheadlines&emc=edit_th_20230223

"Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company, the world's biggest maker of advanced computer chips, is upgrading and expanding a new factory in Arizona that promises to help move the United States toward a more self-reliant technological future.

"But to some at the company, the \$40 billion project is something else: a bad business decision.

"Internal doubts are mounting at the Taiwanese chip maker over its U.S. factory, according to interviews with 11 TSMC employees, who declined to be identified because they were not authorized to speak publicly. Many of the workers said the project could distract from the research and development focus that had long helped TSMC outmaneuver rivals. Some added that they were hesitant to move to the United States because of potential culture clashes.

Title: *Intel cuts dividend to lowest since 2007 to save cash. February 22, 2023*

<https://www.reuters.com/technology/intel-lower-quarterly-dividend-conserve-capital-2023-02-22/>

"Feb 22 (Reuters) - Intel Corp (INTC.O) on Wednesday cut its dividend payout to its lowest in 16 years and decided to scale back big investments to save cash amid slowing demand for its chips used in personal computers and data centers."

Title: *Intel emissions risked 'significant' environmental harm, Oregon regulators say, because safety equipment was turned off for 9 weeks.* February 23, 2023.

<https://www.oregonlive.com/silicon-forest/2023/02/intel-emissions-risked-significant-environmental-harm-oregon-regulators-say-because-safety-equipment-was-turned-off-for-9-weeks.html>

“Intel left a key piece of safety equipment off for 64 days last summer at its D1X factory in Hillsboro, according to state regulators, resulting in “significant” emissions of potentially hazardous chemicals.

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality said that pollutants including hydrogen fluoride and hydrogen chloride vented into the air while an “acid gas scrubber” was turned off, apparently inadvertently. Other potential chemical emissions include fluorine, chlorine, and hydrogen bromide.”