Dear General Alexander and Ambassador Froman,

The New York Times reports on November 3 that wide-reaching efforts by the National Security Agency to collect data are driven in part by the agency's "customers" -- a range of other government agencies that includes the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative.

In light of this and other disclosures, we are writing to ask if the NSA, or other national security agencies, have surveilled any U.S. organizations or individuals advocating on U.S. trade policy. We ask you to disclose any such surveillance, whether or not it occurred at the request of USTR; whether or not it involved communications with foreign nationals; and whether or not it occurred within U.S. borders.

Core American principles ranging from the right to privacy to the right to petition our government are at stake. Simply put, we believe that our organizations -- as well as all others advocating on trade policy matters -- have right to an assurance that their operations are not under surveillance by U.S. government agencies. We trust you agree.

We look forward to your reply.

Access (AccessNow.org)  
American Medical Student Association  
Center for Digital Democracy  
Center for Effective Government  
Center for Financial Privacy and Human Rights  
Center for Food Safety  
Center for International and Environmental Law  
Center for Media and Democracy  
Center for Rights  
Citizens for Ethics and Responsibility in Washington (CREW)  
Citizens Trade Campaign  
Coalition for Sensible Safeguards  
Communications Workers of America  
Consumer Action  
Consumer Federation of America  
Consumer Watchdog  
Defending Dissent Foundation  
Electronic Frontier Foundation  
Fight for the Future  
Food & Water Watch  
Friends of the Earth, U.S.  
Friends of Privacy USA  
Government Accountability Project  
Greenpeace  
Health GAP  
Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy  
Just Foreign Policy  
Knowledge Ecology International  
National Legislative Association on Prescription Drug Prices  
Openthegovernment.org  
Organic Consumers Association  
Privacy Times  
Project On Government Oversight (POGO)  
Public Citizen  
Public Knowledge  
Sunlight Foundation  
U.S. PIRG  
World Privacy Forum