IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
MARSHALL DIVISION

ADVANCED INTEGRATED CIRCUIT PROCESS LLC,	§	
Plaintiff,	§	
v.	§	CASE NO. 2:25-CV-00324-JRG
TAIWAN SEMICONDUCTOR MANUFCATURING COMPANY LIMITED	§	
Defendant.	§	

ORDER

Before the Court is the Motion to Stay Pending *Inter Partes* Review (the "Motion") filed by Defendant Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company Limited ("TSMC"). (Dkt. No. 47.) In the Motion, Defendant moves to stay this case pending *inter partes* review ("IPR") for each of: U.S. Patent No. 7,632,751; U.S. Patent No. 7,439,623; U.S. Patent No. 8,329,572; U.S. Patent No. 8,884,373 (collectively, the "Asserted Patents"). (*Id*. at 1, 10.) However, the Patent Trial and Appeal Board ("PTAB") has not instituted review for any of the Asserted Patents. (*Id*. at 2 ("TSMC expects that the PTAB will begin issuing its institution decisions on TSMC's petitions by February 2026").)

District courts have the inherent power to control their own docket, including the power to stay proceedings. *Clinton v. Jones*, 520 U.S. 681, 706 (1997). How to best manage a court's docket "calls for the exercise of judgment, which must weigh competing interests and maintain an even balance." *Landis v. N. Am. Co.*, 299 U.S. 248, 254-55 (1936).

"District courts typically consider three factors when determining whether to grant a stay pending *inter partes* review of a patent in suit: (1) whether the stay will unduly prejudice the

nonmoving party, (2) whether the proceedings before the court have reached an advanced stage, including whether discovery is complete and a trial date has been set, and (3) whether the stay will likely result in simplifying the case before the court." *NFC Tech. LLC v. HTC Am., Inc.*, No. 2:13-cv-1058-WCB, 2015 WL 1069111, at *2 (E.D. Tex. Mar. 11, 2015) (Bryson, J.). "Based on th[ese] factors, courts determine whether the benefits of a stay outweigh the inherent costs of postponing resolution of the litigation." *Id.*

Where a motion to stay is filed before the PTAB institutes a proceeding, courts often withhold a ruling pending action on the petition by the PTAB or deny the motion without prejudice to refiling in the event that the PTAB institutes a proceeding. *VirtualAgility Inc. v. Salesforce.com, Inc.*, 759 F.3d 1307, 1316 (Fed. Cir. 2014) (citing *Checkfree Corp. v. Metavante Corp.*, 2014 WL 466023, at *1 (M.D. Fla. Jan. 17, 2014)); *see also NFC Techs.*, 2015 WL 1069111, at *6. Indeed, this Court has a consistent practice of denying motions to stay when the PTAB has yet to institute post-grant proceedings. *Trover Grp., Inc. v. Dedicated Micros USA*, No. 2:13-cv-1047-WCB, 2015 WL 1069179, at *6 (E.D. Tex. Mar. 11, 2015) (Bryson, J.) ("This Court's survey of cases from the Eastern District of Texas shows that when the PTAB has not yet acted on a petition for *inter partes* review, the courts have uniformly denied motions for a stay.").

Considering these circumstances, the Court concludes that the Motion is premature, and a stay of these proceedings in advance of the PTAB's institution decision should be denied. Accordingly, the Motion is **DENIED WITHOUT PREJUDICE** to refiling of the same, which shall be permitted within fourteen (14) days following the PTAB's institution decision.

So ORDERED and SIGNED this 29th day of August, 2025.

RODNEY GILSTRAP
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE