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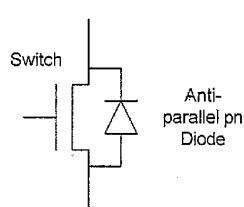
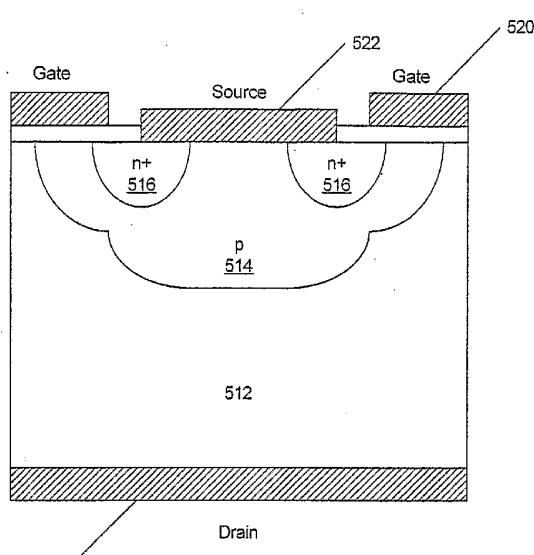
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(54) Title: SILICON CARBIDE MOSFETS WITH INTEGRATED ANTIPARALLEL JUNCTION BARRIER SCHOTTKY FREE WHEELING DIODES AND METHODS OF FABRICATING SAME



(57) Abstract: Silicon carbide semiconductor devices and methods of fabricating silicon carbide semiconductor devices have a silicon carbide DMOSFET and an integral silicon carbide Schottky diode configured to at least partially bypass a built in diode of the DMOSFET. The Schottky diode may be a junction barrier Schottky diode and may have a turn-on voltage lower than a turn-on voltage of a built-in body diode of the DMOSFET. The Schottky diode may have an active area less than an active area of the DMOSFET.

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SILICON CARBIDE MOSFETS WITH INTEGRATED ANTIPARALLEL
JUNCTION BARRIER SCHOTTKY FREE WHEELING DIODES AND
METHODS OF FABRICATING SAME

Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to semiconductor devices and the fabrication of semiconductor devices and more particularly, to silicon carbide (SiC) metal-oxide semiconductor field effect transistors (MOSFETs) and the fabrication of such MOSFETs.

Background of the Invention

15 Power devices are widely used to carry large currents and support high voltages. Modern power devices are generally fabricated from monocrystalline silicon semiconductor material. One widely used power device is the power Metal Oxide Semiconductor Field Effect Transistor (MOSFET). In a power MOSFET, a control signal is supplied to a gate electrode that is separated from the semiconductor 20 surface by an intervening insulator, which may be, but is not limited to, silicon dioxide. Current conduction occurs via transport of majority carriers, without the presence of minority carrier injection that is used in bipolar transistor operation. Power MOSFETs can provide an excellent safe operating area, and can be paralleled in a unit cell structure.

25 As is well known to those having skill in the art, power MOSFETs may include a lateral structure or a vertical structure. In a lateral structure, the drain, gate and source terminals are on the same surface of a substrate. In contrast, in a vertical structure, the source and drain are on opposite surfaces of the substrate.

Recent development efforts in power devices have also included investigation of the use of silicon carbide (SiC) devices for power devices. Silicon carbide has a wide bandgap, a lower dielectric constant, a high breakdown field strength, a high thermal conductivity, and a high saturation electron drift velocity compared to silicon. These characteristics may allow silicon carbide power devices to operate at higher temperatures, higher power levels and with lower specific on-resistance than

conventional silicon-based power devices. A theoretical analysis of the superiority of silicon carbide devices over silicon devices is found in a publication by Bhatnagar et al. entitled "*Comparison of 6H-SiC, 3C-SiC and Si for Power Devices*", IEEE Transactions on Electron Devices, Vol. 40, 1993, pp. 645-655. A power MOSFET 5 fabricated in silicon carbide is described in U.S. Patent 5,506,421 to Palmour entitled "*Power MOSFET in Silicon Carbide*" and assigned to the assignee of the present invention.

A number of silicon carbide power MOSFET structures have been described in the literature. *See e.g.* U.S. Patent No. 5,506,421; A. K. Agarwal, J. B. Casady, L. 10 B. Rowland, W. F. Valek, M. H. White, and C. D. Brandt, "1.1 kV 4H-SiC Power UMOSFET's," IEEE Electron Device Letters, Vol. 18, No. 12, pp. 586-588, December 1997; A. K. Agarwal, J. B. Casady, L. B. Rowland, W. F. Valek and C. D. Brandt, "1400 V 4H-SiC Power MOSFETs," Materials Science Forum Vols. 264-268, pp. 989-992, 1998; J. Tan, J. A. Cooper, Jr., and M. R. Melloch, "High-Voltage 15 Accumulation-Layer UMOSFETs in 4H-SiC," IEEE Electron Device Letters, Vol. 19, No. 12, pp. 487-489, December 1998; J. N. Shenoy, J. A. Cooper and M. R. Melloch, "High-Voltage Double-Implanted Power MOSFET's in 6H-SiC," IEEE Electron Device Letters, Vol. 18, No. 3, pp. 93-95, March 1997; J. B. Casady, A. K. Agarwal, L. B. Rowland, W. F. Valek, and C. D. Brandt, "900 V DMOS and 1100 V UMOS 20 4H-SiC Power FETs," IEEE Device Research Conference, Ft. Collins, CO, June 23-25, 1997; R. Schörner, P. Friedrichs, D. Peters, H. Mitlehner, B. Weis and D. Stephani, "Rugged Power MOSFETs in 6H-SiC with Blocking Capability up to 1800 V," Materials Science Forum Vols. 338-342, pp. 1295-1298, 2000; V. R. Vathulya and M. H. White, "Characterization of Channel Mobility on Implanted SiC to 25 determine Polytype suitability for the Power DMOS structure," Electronic Materials Conference, Santa Barbara, CA, June 30 – July 2, 1999; A. V. Suvorov, L. A. Lipkin, G. M. Johnson, R. Singh and J. W. Palmour, "4H-SiC Self-Aligned Implant-Diffused Structure for Power DMOSFETs," Materials Science Forum Vols. 338-342, pp. 1275-1278, 2000; P. M. Shenoy and B. J. Baliga, "The Planar 6H-SiC ACCUFET: A New 30 High-Voltage Power MOSFET Structure," IEEE Electron Device Letters, Vol. 18, No. 12, pp. 589-591, December 1997; Ranbir Singh, Sei-Hyung Ryu and John W. Palmour, "High Temperature, High Current, 4H-SiC Accu-DMOSFET," Materials Science Forum Vols. 338-342, pp. 1271-1274, 2000; Y. Wang, C. Weitzel and M. Bhatnagar, "Accumulation-Mode SiC Power MOSFET Design Issues," Materials

Science Forum Vols. 338-342, pp. 1287-1290, 2000; A. K. Agarwal, N. S. Saks, S. S. Mani, V. S. Hegde and P. A. Sanger, "Investigation of Lateral RESURF, 6H-SiC MOSFETs," Materials Science Forum Vols. 338-342, pp. 1307-1310, 2000; and Shenoy et al., "High-Voltage Double-Implanted Power MOSFET's in 6H-SiC," IEEE 5 Electron Device Letters, Vol. 18, No. 3, March 1997, pp. 93-95.

One widely used silicon power MOSFET is the double diffused MOSFET (DMOSFET) that is fabricated using a double-diffusion process. A conventional DMOSFET 510 in silicon is illustrated in **Figure 1A**. In these devices, a p-base region 514 and an n⁺ source region 516 are diffused in a substrate 512 through a common opening in a mask. The p-base region 514 is driven in deeper than the n⁺ source region 516. The difference in the lateral diffusion between the p-base 514 and n⁺ source regions 16 forms a surface channel region. A gate oxide 518 is provided on the substrate 512 and a gate contact 520 on the gate oxide 518. A source contact is provided on the substrate 512 between the n⁺ source regions 516. A drain contact 524 10 is provided on the substrate 512 opposite the source contact 522. An overview of power MOSFETs including DMOSFETs may be found in the textbook entitled "Power Semiconductor Devices" by B.J. Baliga, published by PWS Publishing Company, 1996, and specifically in Chapter 7, entitled "Power MOSFET", the disclosure of which is hereby incorporated herein by reference. The DMOSFET 15 structure has also been fabricated in silicon carbide, however, because of the low diffusion of dopants in silicon carbide, other techniques, such as double implants, have been used in fabricating DMOSFETs in silicon carbide. Thus, the term "DMOSFET" is used herein to refer to a structure similar to that of **Figure 1A** having a base or well region and source regions in the base or well region irrespective of the 20 methods used in fabricating the structure.

As illustrate in **Figure 1B**, the power MOSFET of **Figure 1A** can be modeled as a switch and an anti-parallel diode (the built-in body diode). A power MOSFET is a majority carrier device with very high switching speeds. However, in many cases, the switching of the power MOSFET is limited by the speed of the built-in body 25 diode. The anti-parallel p-n diode is built into the MOSFET between the p-base region 514 and the n-type drift region of the substrate 512. In the first quadrant of operation (positive drain current and drain voltage), the device works as a switch. In the third quadrant of operation (negative drain current and drain voltage), with a gate bias of 0 volts, the device works as a PiN diode. However, the built-in body diode

may limit operation of the device at high frequencies, for example, frequencies greater than 100 kHz. Such may be the case because the built-in body diode is a relatively slow minority carrier device. A PiN diode has a high minority carrier lifetime and may often fail to keep up with the switching speed of the MOSFET. Therefore, the 5 switching speed of the power MOSFET may be need to reduced. Alternatively the use of series Schottky diodes with an ultra fast recovery rectifier in an anti-parallel configuration for the whole assembly may be used or a "snubber" circuit have been proposed, for example, in high speed applications such as pulse width modulated DC motor controllers. *See e.g.* Motorola Power MOSFET Transistor Databook, 4th 10 edition, Motorola, Inc., 1989. However, external snubber circuits may be expensive and bulky.

The use of an external fast recovery anti-parallel diode is described by Mondal et al., "An Integrated 500-V Power DMOSFET/Antiparallel Rectifier Device with Improved Diode Reverse Recovery Characteristics," IEEE Electron Device Letters, 15 Vol. 23, No. 9, September 2002. However, this method may be ineffective because in the reverse recovery mode the slowest diode provides the dominant current path. Thus, the current rating of the external fast recovery diode should be much higher than the built-in body diode of the MOSFET so that most of the on-current flows through the external diode, leaving a very small amount of current flowing through 20 the body diode, resulting in a very small reverse recovery charge in the body diode. However, this leads to large parasitic output capacitance of the MOSFET-diode pair since a large area diode is needed in parallel configuration.

Mondal et al. also describes an attempt to integrate a Merged PiN Schottky (MPS) diode with a silicon power DMOSFET to achieve better reverse recovery 25 characteristics. The DMOSFET with the integrated MPS diode showed a 30% decrease in peak reverse current and minority carrier stored charge.

Summary of the Invention

Embodiments of the present invention provide silicon carbide semiconductor 30 devices and methods of fabricating silicon carbide semiconductor devices having a silicon carbide DMOSFET and an integral silicon carbide Schottky diode configured to have a turn-on voltage lower than a turn-on voltage of a built-in body diode of the DMOSFET.

In further embodiments of the present invention, the integral silicon carbide Schottky diode is an integral silicon carbide junction barrier Schottky (JBS) diode. For example, the integral JBS diode may have a turn-on voltage of about 1 volt.

In particular embodiments of the present invention, the silicon carbide Schottky diode includes a Schottky contact adjacent and coupled to the source region, a drift region common with a drift region of the DMOSFET and a second contact common with a drain contact of the DMOSFET. The silicon carbide Schottky diode may also include a p-type junction barrier Schottky (JBS) grid adjacent a source region of the DMOSFET. The p-type region of the JBS grid may have an ohmic contact to a source electrode of the DMOSFET and contact a p-type well region of the DMOSFET.

In certain embodiments of the present invention, the Schottky contact is in direct contact with the source region. The Schottky contact may also be coupled to the source region through a source contact of the DMOSFET.

In still further embodiments of the present invention, an active area of the integral silicon carbide JBS diode is less than the active area of the silicon carbide DMOSFET. For example, the active area of the integral silicon carbide JBS diode may be less than about 50%, 25% or 20% the active area of the silicon carbide DMOSFET.

In additional embodiments of the present invention a silicon carbide semiconductor device includes a first n-type silicon carbide layer and a p-type silicon carbide well region in the first n-type silicon carbide layer. The p-type silicon carbide well region extends to a first surface of the first n-type silicon carbide layer. A second n-type silicon carbide layer is provided in the first n-type silicon carbide layer adjacent a portion of p-type silicon carbide well region. The second n-type silicon carbide layer extends to the first surface of the first n-type silicon carbide layer and has a carrier concentration that is higher than a carrier concentration of the first n-type silicon carbide layer. A gate insulator layer is provided on the first n-type silicon carbide layer, the second n-type silicon carbide layer and the p-type silicon carbide well region. A plurality of spaced apart p-type silicon carbide regions are provided in the first n-type silicon carbide to provide a junction barrier grid. A peripheral one of the plurality of spaced apart p-type silicon carbide regions is adjacent the second n-type silicon carbide region and the p-type silicon carbide well region. A Schottky contact is provided on the first n-type silicon carbide layer and the plurality of p-type

silicon carbide regions. A source contact is provided adjacent the Schottky contact and on the second n-type silicon carbide layer. A gate contact is provided on the gate insulator layer and a drain contact is provided on the first n-type silicon carbide layer opposite the first surface of the first n-type silicon carbide layer.

5 In further embodiments of the present invention, a third n-type silicon carbide layer is disposed between the drain contact and the first n-type silicon carbide layer. The third n-type silicon carbide layer may have a carrier concentration higher than a carrier concentration of the first n-type silicon carbide layer. A metal overlay may also be provided on the source contact and the Schottky contact so as to connect the 10 source contact to the Schottky contact.

Additionally, the peripheral one of the plurality of p-type silicon carbide regions may contact the p-type silicon carbide well region. The source contact may also be on a portion of the peripheral one of the plurality of p-type silicon carbide regions. The plurality of spaced apart p-type silicon carbide regions may have a 15 higher doping concentration than a doping concentration of the p-type silicon carbide well region.

In particular embodiments of the present invention, the Schottky contact, the plurality of spaced apart p-type silicon carbide regions, the first n-type silicon carbide layer and the drain contact provide a Schottky diode having a turn-on voltage less 20 than a turn-on voltage of a built-in pn junction of the first n-type layer of silicon carbide and the p-type well region.

In certain embodiments of the present invention, the first n-type silicon carbide layer has a doping concentration of from about 5×10^{14} to about $2 \times 10^{16} \text{ cm}^{-3}$. The first n-type silicon carbide layer may also have a thickness of from about 5 to 25 about 30 μm . The p-type silicon carbide well region may have a doping concentration of from about 10^{16} to about 10^{20} cm^{-3} . The p-type silicon carbide well region may extend to a depth of from about 0.5 to about 1.5 μm into the first n-type silicon carbide layer. The plurality of spaced apart p-type silicon carbide regions may also have a doping concentration of from about 10^{18} to about 10^{20} cm^{-3} . The plurality of 30 spaced apart p-type silicon carbide regions may be spaced apart a distance of from about 0.5 to about 10 μm . The plurality of spaced apart p-type silicon carbide regions may be uniformly or non-uniformly spaced apart. The plurality of spaced apart p-type silicon carbide regions may also have respective widths of from about 0.5 to about 10 μm . The second n-type silicon carbide layer may have a doping concentration of

from about 10^{19} to about 10^{21} cm^{-3} and may extend to a depth of from about 0.1 to about 0.7 μm into the first n-type silicon carbide layer.

Additional embodiments of the present invention provide a silicon carbide semiconductor device that includes a silicon carbide DMOSFET and means for at least partially bypassing a built-in pn junction diode between a well region and a drift region of the DMOSFET. The means for at least partially bypassing are integral to the silicon carbide DMOSFET. The means for at least partially bypassing may be an integral silicon carbide diode between a source contact and a drain contact of the DMOSFET. The integral silicon carbide diode may have a lower turn-on voltage than the built-in pn junction diode. The integral silicon carbide diode may be a Schottky diode and, in some embodiments, a junction barrier Schottky diode.

Furthermore, the means for at least partially bypassing may be means for completely bypassing a built-in pn junction diode between a well region and a drift region of the DMOSFET. The means for completely bypassing are also integral to the silicon carbide DMOSFET.

Methods of fabricating devices according to embodiments of the present invention are also provided.

Brief Description of the Drawings

Figure 1A is a cross-sectional view of a conventional DMOSFET;
Figure 1B is schematic diagram of a model of the DMOSFET of **Figure 1A**;
Figure 2A is a cross-sectional view of a SiC MOSFET according to embodiments of the present invention;
Figure 2B is a schematic diagram of a model of the SiC MOSFET of Figure 2A; and
Figures 3A through 3H illustrate processing steps in the fabrication of MOSFETS according to various embodiments of the present invention.

Detailed Description of the Invention

The present invention now will be described more fully hereinafter with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which preferred embodiments of the invention are shown. This invention may, however, be embodied in many different forms and should not be construed as limited to the embodiments set forth herein; rather, these embodiments are provided so that this disclosure will be thorough and

complete, and will fully convey the scope of the invention to those skilled in the art. As illustrated in the Figures, the sizes of layers or regions are exaggerated for illustrative purposes and, thus, are provided to illustrate the general structures of the present invention. Like numbers refer to like elements throughout. It will be
5 understood that when an element such as a layer, region or substrate is referred to as being "on" another element, it can be directly on the other element or intervening elements may also be present. In contrast, when an element is referred to as being "directly on" another element, there are no intervening elements present.

Embodiments of the present invention provide silicon carbide MOSFETs
10 and/or methods of fabricating silicon carbide MOSFETs having an integral anti-parallel silicon carbide diode. The integral anti-parallel silicon carbide diode, which may be a JBS diode, is in parallel to the built-in body diode of the DMOSFET and, has a turn-on voltage that is less than the turn-on voltage of the built-in body diode of the DMOSFET. Implanted pn junctions in silicon carbide with moderate p implant
15 doses have been shown to have very limited current injection capabilities.

Furthermore, pn junctions in silicon carbide require at least 2.6 V of forward drop to be turned on. Therefore, when paralleled with a Schottky/junction barrier Schottky (JBS) structure in silicon carbide, which requires about 1 V to be turned on, the injection from the pn junction can be reduced and/or minimized. In certain cases, the
20 pn junction diode can be completely bypassed. Accordingly, embodiments of the present invention may provide a very fast switching silicon carbide semiconductor device.

Silicon carbide semiconductor devices according to certain embodiments of the present invention are illustrated in **Figure 2A**. As seen in **Figure 2A**, in particular
25 embodiments of the present invention, a lightly doped n⁻ drift layer 12 of silicon carbide is on an optional n⁺ layer 10 of silicon carbide. The n⁻ drift layer 12 may be a substrate or an epitaxial layer of silicon carbide and may, for example, be 4H polytype silicon carbide. In certain embodiments, the n⁻ drift layer 12 has a carrier concentration of from about 10¹⁴ to about 5 X 10¹⁶ cm⁻³. In further embodiments of
30 the present invention, the n⁻ drift layer 12 has a doping concentration of from about 5 X 10¹⁴ cm⁻³ to about 2 X 10¹⁶ cm⁻³. Furthermore, in some embodiments of the present invention, the drift layer 12 has a thickness of from about 5 μ m to about 150 μ m and in further embodiments from about 5 to about 30 μ m. Furthermore, the n⁺ layer 10 may be an implanted layer or region, an epitaxial layer or a substrate. In

some embodiments, the n⁺ layer 10 has a carrier concentration of from about 10¹⁸ to about 10²¹ cm⁻³.

As is further seen in **Figure 2A**, spaced apart regions of p-type silicon carbide provide p-wells 20 in the drift layer 12. In particular embodiments, the p-wells 20 5 have a doping concentration of from about 10¹⁶ to about 10²⁰ cm⁻³. Furthermore, the p-wells 20 may provide a junction depth (*i.e* be implanted to a depth) of from about 0.5 μm to about 1.5 μm.

In some embodiments, the p-wells 20 are implanted with Al and annealed at a temperature of at least about 1400°C. However, other suitable p-type dopant, such as 10 boron, may be utilized in providing the p-wells 20. In certain embodiments, an activation anneal may occur after implantation of each of the implanted regions including, for example, the p⁺ regions 26. The doping profile of the p-wells 20 may 15 be a substantially uniform profile or a non-uniform profile, such as a retrograde profile (increasing doping with depth to provide a buried peak) or the p-wells may be totally buried (with some n-type silicon carbide above the p-wells 20). While various p-type dopants may be utilized, Al is utilized in some embodiments because boron tends to diffuse over several microns when annealed at temperatures exceeding 1500°C. Therefore, it may be difficult to control the precise gap between the p-wells 20 and/or the depth of the p-wells 20.

20 Regions of n⁺ silicon carbide 22 are disposed within the p-wells 20. In some embodiments, the regions of n⁺ silicon carbide 22 are spaced from about 0.5 μm to about 5 μm from the edge of the p-wells 20. The regions of n⁺ silicon carbide 22 may have a doping concentration of from about 10¹⁹ cm⁻³ to about 10²¹ cm⁻³ and may 25 extend to a depth of from about 0.1 μm to about 0.7 μm into the p-wells 20 but are shallower than the depth of the p-wells 20. Suitable n-type dopants include phosphorous and nitrogen or other n-type dopants known to those of skill in the art.

As is further illustrated in **Figure 2A**, a junction barrier grid 40 is provided in the drift layer 12 adjacent n-type source regions 22 and the p-well 20. The junction barrier grid 40 may comprise a plurality of spaced apart p⁺ silicon carbide regions 26. 30 The regions of p⁺ silicon carbide 26 may have a doping concentration of from about 10¹⁸ cm⁻³ to about 10²⁰ cm⁻³ and may extend to a depth of from about 0.3 μm to about 1.5 μm into drift layer 12. The number of p⁺ regions 26 in the JBS grid 40 may depend on the desired size of the anti-parallel JBS diode to be provided. In general,

however, p⁺ regions 26 may have a width of from about 0.5 to about 10 μm and may be spaced apart a distance of from about 0.5 to about 10 μm . The width and spacing of the p⁺ regions 26 may be constant or may vary. The peripheral ones of the plurality of spaced apart p⁺ regions 26 may contact the n⁺ regions 22 and the p-well region 20.

5 Thus, in addition to providing protection to a Schottky interface in a blocking state, the p⁺ regions 26 may also provide a connection from the p-well 20 to a source contact 24.

A Schottky contact 30 is provided on the n- drift layer 12 in the region of the junction barrier grid 40. The Schottky contact 30 may extend between peripheral 10 ones of the p⁺ regions 26 and contact both the n⁻ drift layer 12 and the p⁺ regions 26. In certain embodiments, the Schottky contact is Ti, Ni, PT, Cr and/or Ta. Furthermore, in particular embodiments, the Schottky contact has a thickness of from about 100 to about 5000 \AA .

The gate oxide 28 is provided on a first surface of the drift layer 12 and 15 extends over the p-well region 20 and at least a portion of the n⁺ regions of silicon carbide 22 and has a gate contact 32 thereon. In some embodiments, the gate oxide 28 may be either a thermally grown oxide with an NO or N₂O anneal or Oxide/Nitride/Oxide (ONO) where the first oxide is a thermal oxide followed by an NO or N₂O anneal. The gate contact material may be any suitable contact material. In 20 some embodiments, the gate contact material is molybdenum or p-type polysilicon. P-type polysilicon may be suitable in some embodiments because of its high work function. The thickness of the gate oxide 28 may depend on the work function of the material of the gate contact 32. However, in general, thicknesses of from about 100 \AA to about 5000 \AA are preferred.

25 One or more source contacts 24 and a drain contact 34 are also provided. Source contacts 24, in some embodiments are formed of nickel (Ni), titanium (Ti), platinum (Pt) or aluminum (Al), chromium (Cr), combinations thereof, such as Ti/Ni, Al/Ni or Cr/Ni stacks, alloys thereof, such as NiCr, and/or other suitable contact materials and may be annealed at temperatures of from about 600 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ to about 1100 30 $^{\circ}\text{C}$, for example, 825 $^{\circ}\text{C}$, so as to provide an ohmic contact to both the p⁺ regions 24 and the n⁺ regions 22. The drain contact 34 may be Ni or Ti or other such suitable material for forming an ohmic contact to n-type silicon carbide. The ohmic contacts 24 and 34 may have a thickness of from about 150 to about 3000 \AA .

Differing or the same contact materials may be utilized to contact the p⁺ regions 22 and the n⁺ regions 24. Furthermore, as illustrated in **Figure 2A**, a metal overlayer 36 may be provided on the source contacts 24 and the Schottky contact 30 to connect the source contact 24 to the Schottky contact 30. According to certain 5 embodiments of the present invention, the overlayer 36 may be gold, aluminum or other suitable metal. For example, overlayers having a thickness of from about 1000 Å to about 10 μm may be provided. Additional overlayers may also be provided one or more of the contacts. Techniques and materials for providing metal overlayers are known to those of skill in the art and, therefore, are not discussed further herein.

10 As seen in **Figure 2A**, an integral silicon carbide JBS diode is provided by the drift layer 12, the p-type regions 26, the Schottky contact 30 and the drain contact 34. Thus, the drift layer 12 provides a common drift layer between the JBS diode and the DMOSFET. Furthermore, the drain contact 34 provides a common contact between the JBS diode and the DMOSFET. In certain embodiments of the present invention, 15 the JBS diode occupies less than about 50% of the active area of the DMOSFET. In further embodiments, the JBS diode occupies about 25 % of the active area of the DMOSFET and, in particular embodiments, about 20% of the active area of the DMOSFET. The area of the JBS diode is defined as the area of the Schottky contact 30. The area of the DMOSFET is defined as the area of the n⁺ source regions 22, p- 20 well regions 20 and the JFET region, which is defined as the region between two adjacent p-well regions.

While **Figure 2A** illustrates embodiments of the present invention as a discrete device, as will be appreciated by those of skill in the art, **Figure 2A** may be considered a unit cells of a device having multiple cells. Thus, for example, 25 additional unit cells may be incorporated into the device illustrated in **Figure 2A** by dividing the device along its central axis (illustrated as the vertical axis in **Figure 2A**) and rotating the divided device about an axis of the periphery of the devices illustrated in **Figure 2A** (the vertical edges of the devices illustrated in **Figure 2A**). Accordingly, embodiments of the present invention include devices such as those 30 illustrated in **Figure 2A** as well as devices having a plurality of unit cells incorporating the integral anti-parallel JBS diode illustrated in **Figure 2A**.

Figure 2B is a schematic of a model of a silicon carbide semiconductor device according to embodiments of the present invention. As seen in **Figure 2B**, the device of **Figure 2A** can be modeled as a silicon carbide switch with a built-in anti-parallel

PiN diode and an integrated anti-parallel Schottky diode. Particular embodiments of the present invention may, for example, provide MOSFETs with built-in JBS diodes having blocking voltages ranging from about 600V to about 3000V. Because of the relatively low MOS channel mobility in a silicon carbide MOSFET, the on-resistance 5 of the power MOSFET is not dominated by drift layer resistance as is the case in silicon MOSFETs, but is dominated by MOSFET channel resistance. For example, for 4H-SiC DMOSFETs with blocking voltages ranging from 1600 V to 2400 V, the on-resistance ranged from 27 mΩ-cm² to 42 mΩ-cm². The JBS diode that shares the same drift layer may have much lower on-resistance. For example, a JBS diode in 10 4H-SiC with a blocking voltage of 2.8 kV may have an on-resistance of 8 mΩ-cm², about 3 to 5 times lower than that of a 4H-SiC MOSFET. Therefore, if the same forward voltage drop is allowed for the MOSFET and the built-in JBS diode, the area of the integrated JBS diode can be smaller, and even much smaller than the active area of the MOSFET.

15 Furthermore, as discussed briefly above, silicon carbide is a wide bandgap material (~3.2 eV for 4H polytype). Therefore, pn junctions in silicon carbide do not turn on unless a forward bias greater than 2.6 V is applied. Most JBS diodes in silicon carbide with blocking voltages less than or equal to 3000 V can have extremely high current density when a forward bias of 2.6 V is applied. For example, 20 a diode which uses Ti as the Schottky metal can block 2.8 kV in reverse bias and can have an on-current density of 200 A/cm² at a forward bias of 2.6 V. If the ratio of power MOSFET active area and the built-in Schottky/JBS diode area are so that the built-in Schottky/JBS diode can flow full switch current of the MOSFET with a forward drop less than or equal to 2.6 V in the free wheeling mode, then the built-in 25 PiN body diode can be completely disabled and reverse recovery charge can be eliminated. Accordingly, in some embodiments of the present invention, the area of the integral JBS diode is selected to flow the full switch current of the MOSFET at a bias voltage of less than or equal to 2.6 V.

30 Additionally, because DMOSFETs formed in silicon carbide are formed by implantation with limited diffusion, the PiN body diode may exhibit a high forward drop. For example, a silicon carbide DMOSFET with a blocking voltage of 2.4 kV and an approximate area of 2 X 2 mm has been fabricated where the PiN body diode exhibited a forward drop of 11 V when carrying a full switch current of 2 A. Such may result from the damage created by the p-type implantation which may limit the

carrier injection from the implanted pn junction, even though the implant anneal was sufficient to reduce or minimize leakage current from the pn junction in blocking state. Such characteristics may be advantageously utilized in embodiments of the present invention as the pn junction of the JBS structures may provide adequate 5 protection of the Schottky interface in reverse bias but have very limited minority carrier injection in the drift layer in forward bias. Thus, because even higher forward drop may be utilized with the free wheeling JBS diode, the JBS diode may be an even smaller percentage of the active area of the DMOSFET without adversely affecting the reverse recovery characteristics.

10 Fabrication of devices according to embodiments of the present invention having an integral JBS diode will now be described with reference to **Figures 3A** through **3H**. As will be appreciated by those of skill in the art in light of the present disclosure, embodiments of the present invention having an integral anti-parallel JBS diode may be provided by modifying the operations described herein and, therefore, 15 should not be construed as limited to the operations or sequence of operations described herein.

As seen in **Figure 3A**, a mask **100** is formed and patterned on the n-type drift layer **12** and impurities are implanted into the n-type drift layer **12** to provide the p-wells **20**. The implanted impurities may be implanted to the depths described above 20 and to provide the desired carrier concentrations when activated. The n-type drift layer **12** may be a substrate or an epitaxial layer. Furthermore, the drift layer **12** may be provided on an n⁺ silicon carbide substrate. In such embodiments, the n⁺ layer described below may be provided by the substrate rather than through implantation.

As is seen in **Figure 3B**, the mask **100** is removed and a mask **110** is formed 25 and patterned and n-type impurities are implanted utilizing the mask **110** to provide the n⁺ regions **22**. The mask **110** is formed to provide the desired spacing between the periphery of the p-wells **20** and the n⁺ regions **22** that defines the channel length. Suitable n-type impurities include nitrogen and phosphorous. Furthermore, the 30 impurities may be implanted to provide the dimensions and carrier concentrations of the n⁺ regions **22** described herein.

Figure 3C illustrates the formation of the p⁺ regions **26** of the junction barrier grid **40**. The mask **110** is removed and a mask **120** is formed and patterned and p-type impurities are implanted utilizing the mask **120** to provide the p⁺ regions **26**. The p-type impurities may be implanted to provide the dimensions and carrier

concentrations of the p⁺ regions 26 described herein. In some embodiments, the p-type impurity is aluminum, however, other suitable p-type impurities may also be utilized.

Figure 3D illustrates the removal of the mask 120 as well as the creation of 5 the n⁺ layer 10, which may be formed by a backside implant of n-type impurities in a substrate or may be an epitaxial layer or the substrate itself and may be formed prior to Figure 3A. The structure is also annealed at a temperature of from about 1400 °C to about 1850 °C for durations from about 1 second to about 2 hours to activate the implanted p-type and n-type impurities. Optionally, the structure may be capped with 10 a dielectric layer, such as SiO₂ or Si₃N₄, to protect the structure during annealing. Alternatively, in embodiments where the gate oxide is annealed after formation to improve the SiC/SiO₂ interface, the activation of such impurities may be provided by such anneal.

Figure 3E illustrates the formation of the gate oxide layer 300. The gate 15 oxide layer 300 may be thermally grown and may be a nitrided oxide and/or may be other oxides. The nitrided oxide may be any suitable gate oxide, however, in certain embodiments, SiO₂, oxynitride or ONO are utilized. Formation of the gate oxide or the initial oxide of an ONO gate dielectric may be followed by an anneal in N₂O or NO so as to reduce defect density at the SiC/oxide interface. In particular 20 embodiments, the gate oxide layer 300 is formed either by thermal growth or deposition and then annealed in an N₂O environment at a temperature of greater than about 1100 °C and flow rates of from about 2 to about 8 SLM which may provide initial residence times of the N₂O of from about 11 to about 45 seconds. Such formation and annealing of an oxide layer on silicon carbide are described in 25 commonly assigned United States Patent Application Serial No. 09/834,283, entitled "METHOD OF N₂O ANNEALING AN OXIDE LAYER ON A SILICON CARBIDE LAYER", United States Provisional Application Serial No. 60/237,822 entitled "Method of N₂O Growth of an oxide layer on a Silicon Carbide Layer" filed May 30, 2001, United States Patent Application Serial No. 09/968,391 entitled "METHOD OF 30 N₂O GROWTH OF AN OXIDE ON A SILICON CARBIDE LAYER" filed October 1, 2001, and/or United States Patent Application Serial No. 10/045,542 entitled "METHOD OF FABRICATING AN OXIDE LAYER ON A SILICON CARBIDE LAYER UTILIZING AN ANNEAL IN A HYDROGEN ENVIRONMENT" filed October

26, 2001, the disclosures of which are incorporated herein by reference as if set forth fully herein.

Additionally, an N₂O grown oxide may also be utilized as described in J. P. Xu, P. T. Lai, C. L. Chan, B. Li, and Y. C. Cheng, "Improved Performance and Reliability of N₂O-Grown Oxynitride on 6H-SiC," IEEE Electron Device Letters, Vol. 21, No. 6, pp. 298-300, June 2000. Techniques as described in L. A. Lipkin and J. W. Palmour, "Low interface state density oxides on p-type SiC," Materials Science Forum Vols. 264-268, pp. 853-856, 1998 may also be utilized. Alternatively, for thermally grown oxides, a subsequent NO anneal of the thermally grown SiO₂ layer may be provided to reduce the interface trap density as is described in M. K. Das, L. A. Lipkin, J. W. Palmour, G. Y. Chung, J. R. Williams, K. McDonald, and L. C. Feldman, "High Mobility 4H-SiC Inversion Mode MOSFETs Using Thermally Grown, NO Annealed SiO₂," IEEE Device Research Conference, Denver, CO, June 19-21, 2000; G. Y. Chung, C. C. Tin, J. R. Williams, K. McDonald, R. A. Weller, S. T. Pantelides, L. C. Feldman, M. K. Das, and J. W. Palmour, "Improved Inversion Channel Mobility for 4H-SiC MOSFETs Following High Temperature Anneals in Nitric Oxide," IEEE Electron Device Letters accepted for publication; and G. Y. Chung, C. C. Tin, J. R. Williams, K. McDonald, M. Di Ventra, S. T. Pantelides, L. C. Feldman, and R. A. Weller, "Effect of nitric oxide annealing on the interface trap densities near the band edges in the 4H polytype of silicon carbide," Applied Physics Letters, Vol. 76, No. 13, pp. 1713-1715, March 2000. Oxynitrides may be provided as described in United States Patent Application Serial No. 09/878,442, entitled "*HIGH VOLTAGE, HIGH TEMPERATURE CAPACITOR STRUCTURES AND METHODS OF FABRICATION*" filed June 11, 2001, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference as if set forth fully herein.

Figure 3F illustrates the patterning of the gate oxide layer 300 to open contact windows for the source contact 24 and Schottky contact 30 and provide the patterned gate oxide 28. As seen in **Figure 3F**, a window is opened in the gate oxide layer 300 to expose the n⁺ regions 22, the p⁺ regions 26. An ohmic contact material 24' is formed in the window on the exposed n⁺ regions 22, the p⁺ regions 26 and surface of the n⁻ drift layer 12. Alternatively, the drain contact 34 may also be formed at this time. The ohmic contact material 24' and the drain contact 34 may be formed by evaporative deposition, sputtering or other such techniques known to those of skill in the art, then patterned by wet/dry etching or liftoff or other such techniques known to

those of skill in the art. In certain embodiments, the ohmic contact material 24' and drain contact 34 are nickel that is annealed at about 825 °C after formation so as to improve the quality of the ohmic contact.

As seen in **Figure 3G**, a Schottky material is formed in the open window on 5 the p⁺ regions 26 and a surface of the n⁻ drift layer 12 to provide the Schottky contact 30. Alternatively, the Schottky contact material and the ohmic contact material may be same material, thus avoiding the need to open a Schottky contact window and deposit a Schottky contact material.

Figure 3H illustrates formation of the gate contact 32. As described above, 10 the gate contact 32 may be p-type polysilicon and/or may be other suitable contact material and may be formed and patterned utilizing techniques known to those of skill in the art. Finally, **Figure 3H** illustrates formation of a metal overlayer 36 and drain contact 34 respectively, that may be formed by evaporative deposition, sputtering or other such techniques known to those of skill in the art. In certain embodiments, the 15 drain contact 34 is nickel that is annealed at about 825 °C after formation so as to improve the quality of the ohmic contact.

In addition to the embodiments described herein, embodiments of the integral anti-parallel JBS diode may also be provided in DMOSFETs as described in United States Patent Application Serial No. 09/911,995 filed July 24, 2001 and entitled 20 "SILICON CARBIDE POWER METAL-OXIDE SEMICONDUCTOR FIELD EFFECT TRANSISTORS HAVING A SHORTING CHANNEL AND METHODS OF FABRICATING SILICON CARBIDE METAL-OXIDE SEMICONDUCTOR FIELD EFFECT TRANSISTORS HAVING A SHORTING CHANNEL," the disclosure of which is incorporated herein as if set forth fully. Furthermore, embodiments of the 25 present invention may also be provided with the DMOSFET described in United States Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/435,212, (Attorney Docket No. 5308-279PR), entitled "VERTICAL JFET LIMITED SILICON CARBIDE POWER METAL-OXIDE SEMICONDUCTOR FIELD EFFECT TRANSISTORS AND METHODS OF FABRICATING VERTICAL JFET LIMITED SILICON CARBIDE 30 METAL-OXIDE SEMICONDUCTOR FIELD EFFECT TRANSISTORS," filed December 20, 2002, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein as if set forth fully. Additionally, the DMOSFET according to embodiments of the present invention may also be provided as described in commonly assigned and concurrently filed United States Patent Application Serial No. _____, entitled "SILICON CARBIDE

MOSFETS WITH SELF-ALIGNED SOURCE AND P-WELL REGIONS," (Attorney Docket No. 5308-287), the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference as if set forth fully herein.

While embodiments of the present invention have been described with reference to particular sequences of operations, as will be appreciated by those of skill in the art, certain operations within the sequence may be reordered while still benefiting from the teachings of the present invention. For example, in particular embodiments of the present invention, the formation of the n^+ regions 22 and the p^+ regions 26 may be reversed. Accordingly, the present invention should not be construed as limited to the exact sequence of operations described herein.

In the drawings and specification, there have been disclosed typical embodiments of the invention and, although specific terms are employed, they are used in a generic and descriptive sense only and not for purposes of limitation, the scope of the invention being set forth in the following claims.

15

That which is claimed is:

1. A silicon carbide semiconductor device, comprising:
 - a silicon carbide DMOSFET; and
 - an integral silicon carbide Schottky diode configured to have a turn-on voltage lower than a turn-on voltage of a built-in body diode of the DMOSFET.
2. The silicon carbide semiconductor device of Claim 1, wherein the integral silicon carbide Schottky diode comprises an integral silicon carbide junction barrier Schottky (JBS) diode.
3. The silicon carbide semiconductor device of Claim 2, wherein the integral JBS diode has a turn-on voltage of about 1 volt.
4. The silicon carbide semiconductor device of Claim 1, wherein the silicon carbide Schottky diode comprises:
 - a Schottky contact adjacent and coupled to the source region;
 - a drift region common with a drift region of the DMOSFET; and
 - a second contact common with a drain contact of the DMOSFET.
5. The silicon carbide semiconductor device of Claim 4, wherein the silicon carbide Schottky diode further comprises a p-type junction barrier Schottky (JBS) grid adjacent a source region of the DMOSFET.
6. The silicon carbide semiconductor device of Claim 5, wherein a p-type region of the JBS grid has an ohmic contact to a source electrode of the DMOSFET and contacts a p-type well region of the DMOSFET.
7. The silicon carbide semiconductor device of Claim 4, wherein the Schottky contact is in direct contact with the source region.
8. The silicon carbide semiconductor device of Claim 4, wherein the Schottky contact is coupled to the source region through a source contact of the DMOSFET.

9. The silicon carbide semiconductor device of Claim 2, wherein an active area of the integral silicon carbide JBS diode is less than the active area of the silicon carbide DMOSFET.

5 10. The silicon carbide semiconductor device of Claim 2, wherein the active area of the integral silicon carbide JBS diode is less than about 50% the active area of the silicon carbide DMOSFET.

10 11. The silicon carbide semiconductor device of Claim 2, wherein the active area of the integral silicon carbide JBS diode is less than about 25% the active area of the silicon carbide DMOSFET.

15 12. The silicon carbide semiconductor device of Claim 2, wherein the active area of the integral silicon carbide JBS diode is less than about 20% the active area of the silicon carbide DMOSFET.

13. The silicon carbide semiconductor device of Claim 2, wherein the active area of the integral silicon carbide JBS diode is selected to flow a full switch current of the DMOSFET at a bias voltage of less than or equal to 2.6 V.

20 14. A silicon carbide semiconductor device, comprising:
a first n-type silicon carbide layer;
a p-type silicon carbide well region in the first n-type silicon carbide layer and extending to a first surface of the first n-type silicon carbide layer;
25 a second n-type silicon carbide layer in the first n-type silicon carbide layer adjacent a portion of p-type silicon carbide well region, the second n-type silicon carbide layer extending to the first surface of the first n-type silicon carbide layer and having a carrier concentration that is higher than a carrier concentration of the first n-type silicon carbide layer;
30 a gate insulator layer on the first n-type silicon carbide layer, the second n-type silicon carbide layer and the p-type silicon carbide well region;
a plurality of spaced apart p-type silicon carbide regions in the first n-type silicon carbide to provide a junction barrier grid, a peripheral one of the plurality of

spaced apart p-type silicon carbide regions is adjacent the second n-type silicon carbide region and the p-type silicon carbide well region;

5 a Schottky contact on the first n-type silicon carbide layer and the plurality of p-type silicon carbide regions;

a source contact adjacent the Schottky contact and on the second n-type silicon carbide layer;

a gate contact on the gate insulator layer; and

10 a drain contact on the first n-type silicon carbide layer opposite the first surface of the first n-type silicon carbide layer.

10

15. The silicon carbide semiconductor device of Claim 14, further comprising a third n-type silicon carbide layer disposed between the drain contact and the first n-type silicon carbide layer, the third n-type silicon carbide layer having a carrier concentration higher than a carrier concentration of the first n-type silicon carbide layer.

15

16. The silicon carbide semiconductor device of Claim 14, further comprising a metal overlay on the source contact and the Schottky contact so as to connect the source contact to the Schottky contact.

20

17. The silicon carbide semiconductor device of Claim 14, wherein the peripheral one of the plurality of p-type silicon carbide regions contacts the p-type silicon carbide well region and wherein the source contact is also on a portion of the peripheral one of the plurality of p-type silicon carbide regions.

25

18. The silicon carbide semiconductor device of Claim 17, wherein the plurality of spaced apart p-type silicon carbide regions have a higher doping concentration than a doping concentration of the p-type silicon carbide well region.

30

19. The silicon carbide semiconductor device of Claim 14, wherein the Schottky contact, the plurality of spaced apart p-type silicon carbide regions, the first n-type silicon carbide layer and the drain contact provide a Schottky diode having a turn-on voltage less than a turn-on voltage of a built-in pn junction of the first n-type layer of silicon carbide and the p-type well region.

20. The silicon carbide semiconductor device of Claim 14, wherein the first n-type silicon carbide layer has a doping concentration of from about 5×10^{14} to about $2 \times 10^{16} \text{ cm}^{-3}$.

5

21. The silicon carbide semiconductor device of Claim 14, wherein the first n-type silicon carbide layer has a thickness of from about 5 to about 30 μm .

22. The silicon carbide semiconductor device of Claim 14, wherein the p-10 type silicon carbide well region has a doping concentration of from about 10^{16} to about 10^{20} cm^{-3} .

23. The silicon carbide semiconductor device of Claim 14, wherein the p-15 type silicon carbide well region extends to a depth of from about 0.5 to about 1.5 μm into the first n-type silicon carbide layer.

24. The silicon carbide semiconductor device of Claim 14, wherein the plurality of spaced apart p-type silicon carbide regions have a doping concentration of from about 10^{18} to about 10^{20} cm^{-3} .

20

25. The silicon carbide semiconductor device of Claim 14, wherein the plurality of spaced apart p-type silicon carbide regions are spaced apart a distance of from about 0.5 to about 10 μm .

25

26. The silicon carbide semiconductor device of Claim 14, wherein the plurality of spaced apart p-type silicon carbide regions are uniformly spaced apart.

27. The silicon carbide semiconductor device of Claim 14, wherein the plurality of spaced apart p-type silicon carbide regions are non-uniformly spaced 30 apart.

28. The silicon carbide semiconductor device of Claim 14, wherein the plurality of spaced apart p-type silicon carbide regions have respective widths of from about 0.5 to about 10 μm .

29. The silicon carbide semiconductor device of Claim 14, wherein the second n-type silicon carbide layer has a doping concentration of from about 10^{19} to about 10^{21} cm⁻³.

5

30. The silicon carbide semiconductor device of Claim 14, wherein the second n-type silicon carbide layer extends to a depth of from about 0.1 to about 0.7 μ m into the first n-type silicon carbide layer.

10

31. A silicon carbide semiconductor device, comprising:
a silicon carbide DMOSFET; and
means for at least partially bypassing a built-in pn junction diode between a well region and a drift region of the DMOSFET when a negative voltage is applied to a drain of the DMOSFET, the means for at least partially bypassing being integral to
15 the silicon carbide DMOSFET.

20

32. The silicon carbide semiconductor device according to Claim 31, wherein the means for at least partially bypassing comprises an integral silicon carbide diode between a source contact and a drain contact of the DMOSFET, the integral silicon carbide diode having a lower turn-on voltage than the built-in pn junction diode.

33. The silicon carbide semiconductor device according to Claim 32, wherein the integral silicon carbide diode comprises a Schottky diode.

25

34. The silicon carbide semiconductor device according to Claim 33, wherein the Schottky diode comprises a junction barrier Schottky diode.

30

35. The silicon carbide semiconductor device according to Claim 31, wherein the means for at least partially bypassing comprises means for completely bypassing a built-in pn junction diode between a well region and a drift region of the DMOSFET when a negative voltage is applied to a drain of the DMOSFET, the means for completely bypassing being integral to the silicon carbide DMOSFET.

36. A method of fabricating a silicon carbide semiconductor device, comprising:
forming a silicon carbide DMOSFET; and
forming an integral silicon carbide Schottky diode configured to have a turn-on voltage lower than a turn-on voltage of a built-in body diode of the DMOSFET.

37. The method of Claim 36, wherein forming an integral silicon carbide Schottky diode comprises forming an integral silicon carbide junction barrier Schottky (JBS) diode.

10

38. The method of Claim 37, wherein forming an integral JBS diode comprises forming an integral JBS diode having a turn-on voltage of about 1 volt.

15

39. The method of Claim 36, wherein forming a silicon carbide Schottky diode comprises:

forming a Schottky contact adjacent and coupled to the source region;
forming a drift region common with a drift region of the DMOSFET; and
forming a second contact common with a drain contact of the DMOSFET.

20

40. The method of Claim 39, wherein forming a silicon carbide Schottky diode further comprises forming a p-type junction barrier Schottky (JBS) grid adjacent a source region of the DMOSFET.

25

41. The method of Claim 40, wherein forming a p-type JBS grid a p-type region of the JBS grid has an ohmic contact to a source electrode of the DMOSFET and contacts a p-type well region of the DMOSFET.

42. The method of Claim 39, wherein forming a Schottky contact comprises forming a Schottky contact in direct contact with the source region.

30

43. The method of Claim 39, wherein forming a Schottky contact comprises forming a Schottky contact that is coupled to the source region through a source contact of the DMOSFET.

44. The method of Claim 37, wherein forming a silicon carbide JBS diode comprises forming an integral silicon carbide JBS diode having an active area that is less than the active area of the silicon carbide DMOSFET.

5 45. The method of Claim 37, wherein forming a silicon carbide JBS diode comprises forming an integral silicon carbide JBS diode having an active area that is less than about 50% the active area of the silicon carbide DMOSFET.

10 46. The method of Claim 37, wherein forming a silicon carbide JBS diode comprises forming an integral silicon carbide JBS diode having an active area that is less than about 25% the active area of the silicon carbide DMOSFET.

15 47. The method of Claim 37, wherein forming a silicon carbide JBS diode comprises forming an integral silicon carbide JBS diode having an active area that is less than about 20% the active area of the silicon carbide DMOSFET.

48. A method of fabricating a silicon carbide semiconductor device, comprising:
20 forming a first n-type silicon carbide layer;
forming a p-type silicon carbide well region in the first n-type silicon carbide layer and extending to a first surface of the first n-type silicon carbide layer;
25 forming a second n-type silicon carbide layer in the first n-type silicon carbide layer adjacent a portion of p-type silicon carbide well region, the second n-type silicon carbide layer extending to the first surface of the first n-type silicon carbide layer and having a carrier concentration that is higher than a carrier concentration of the first n-type silicon carbide layer;
forming a gate insulator layer on the first n-type silicon carbide layer, the second n-type silicon carbide layer and the p-type silicon carbide well region;
30 forming a plurality of spaced apart p-type silicon carbide regions in the first n-type silicon carbide to provide a junction barrier grid, a peripheral one of the plurality of spaced apart p-type silicon carbide regions is adjacent the second n-type silicon carbide region and the p-type silicon carbide well region;
forming a Schottky contact on the first n-type silicon carbide layer and the plurality of p-type silicon carbide regions;

forming a source contact adjacent the Schottky contact and on the second n-type silicon carbide layer;

forming a gate contact on the gate insulator layer; and

forming a drain contact on the first n-type silicon carbide layer opposite the 5 first surface of the first n-type silicon carbide layer.

49. The method of Claim 48, further comprising forming a third n-type silicon carbide layer disposed between the drain contact and the first n-type silicon carbide layer, the third n-type silicon carbide layer having a carrier concentration 10 higher than a carrier concentration of the first n-type silicon carbide layer.

50. The method of Claim 48, further comprising forming a metal overlay on the source contact and the Schottky contact so as to connect the source contact to the Schottky contact.

15

51. The method of Claim 48, wherein forming a plurality of spaced apart p-type silicon carbide regions comprises forming a plurality of spaced apart p-type silicon carbide regions such that the peripheral one of the plurality of p-type silicon carbide regions contacts the p-type silicon carbide well region and wherein forming a 20 source contact further comprises forming a source on a portion of the peripheral one of the plurality of p-type silicon carbide regions.

52. The method of Claim 51, wherein the plurality of spaced apart p-type silicon carbide regions have a higher doping concentration than a doping 25 concentration of the p-type silicon carbide well region.

53. The method of Claim 48, wherein the Schottky contact, the plurality of spaced apart p-type silicon carbide regions, the first n-type silicon carbide layer and the drain contact are formed to provide a Schottky diode having a turn-on voltage less 30 than a turn-on voltage of a built-in pn junction of the first n-type layer of silicon carbide and the p-type well region.

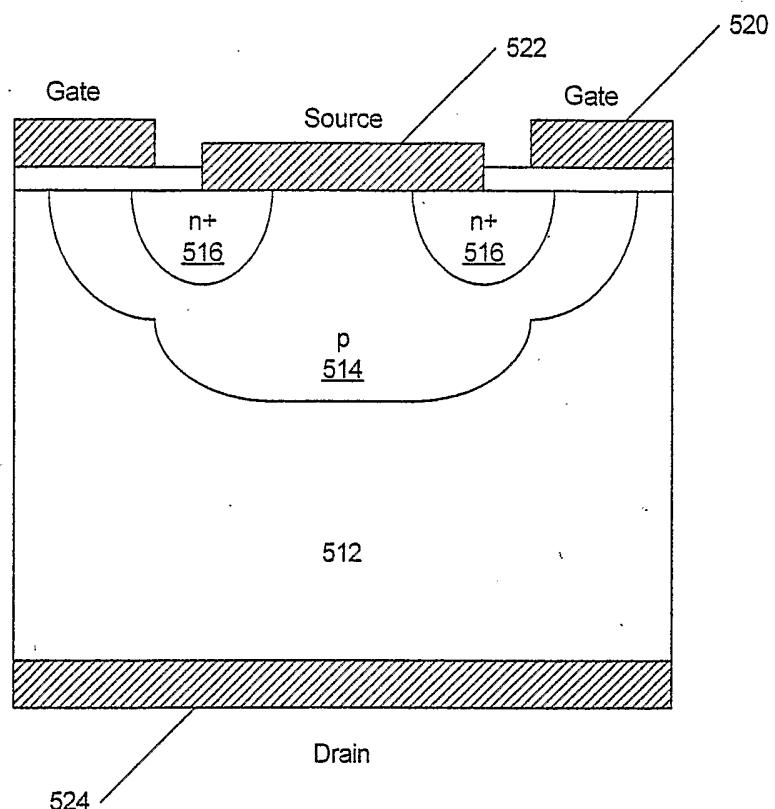


Figure 1A

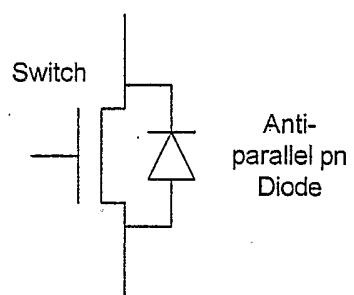


Figure 1B

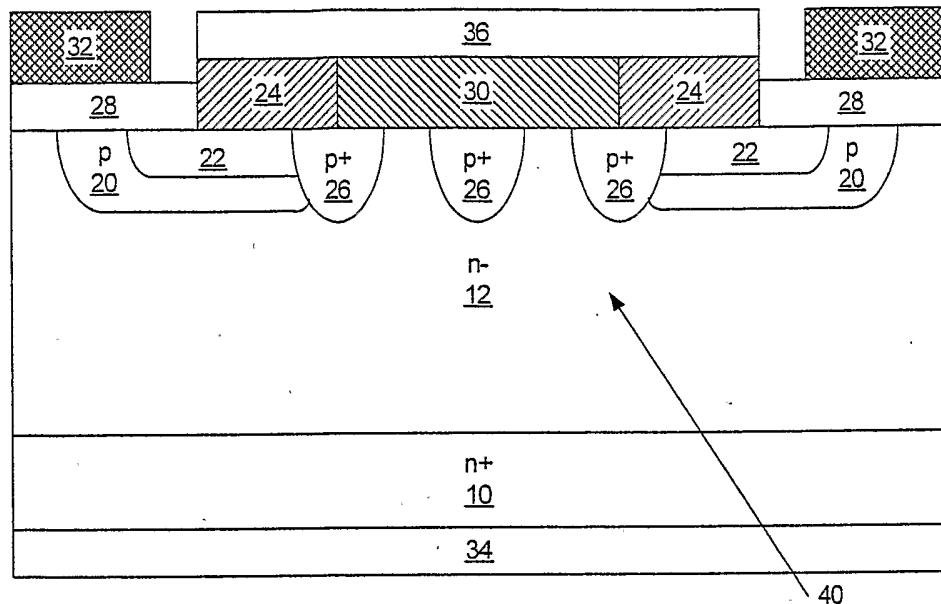


Figure 2A

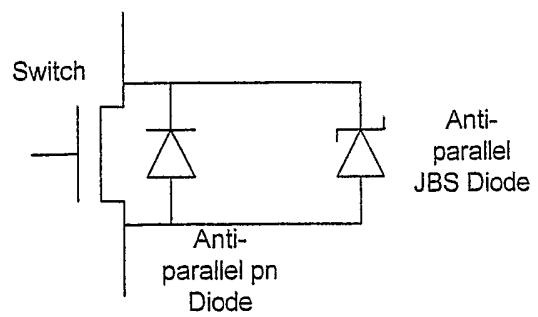


Figure 2B

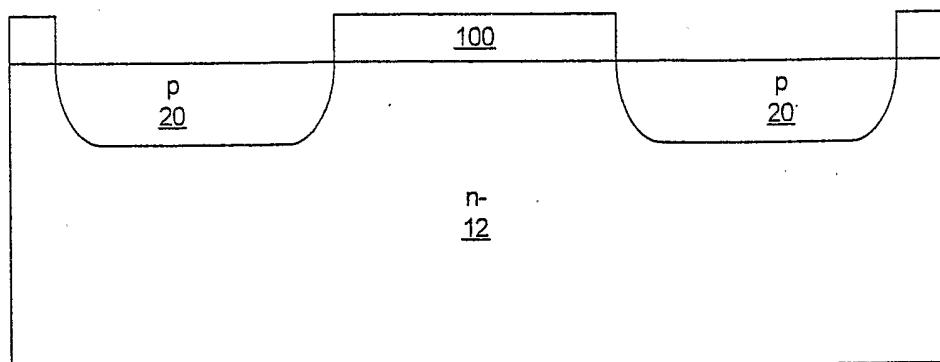


Figure 3A

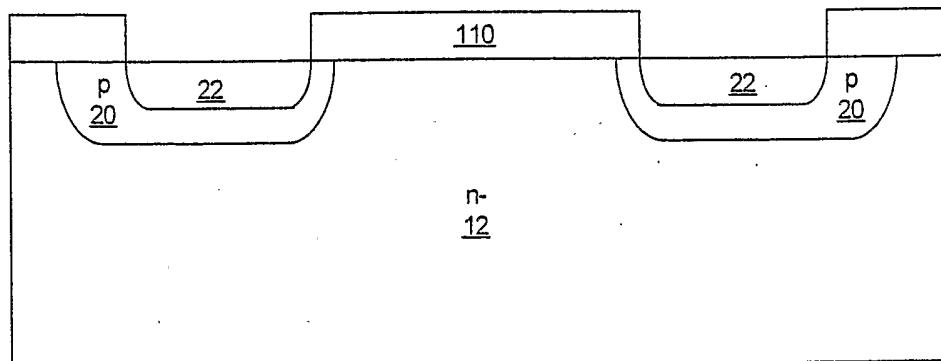


Figure 3B

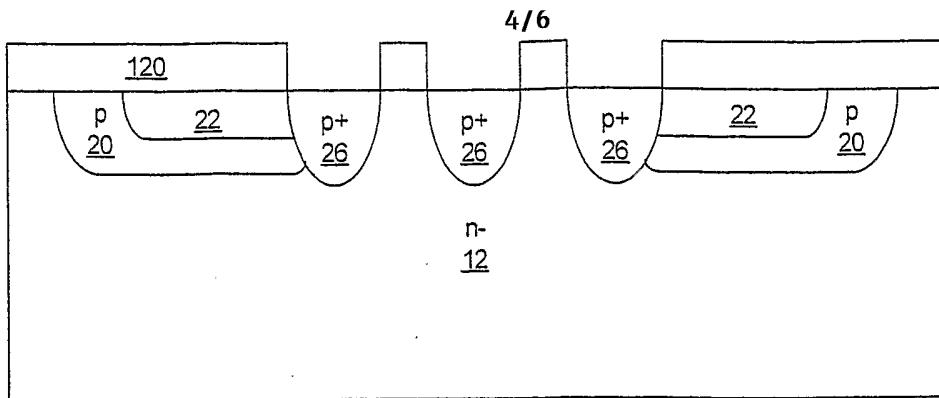


Figure 3C

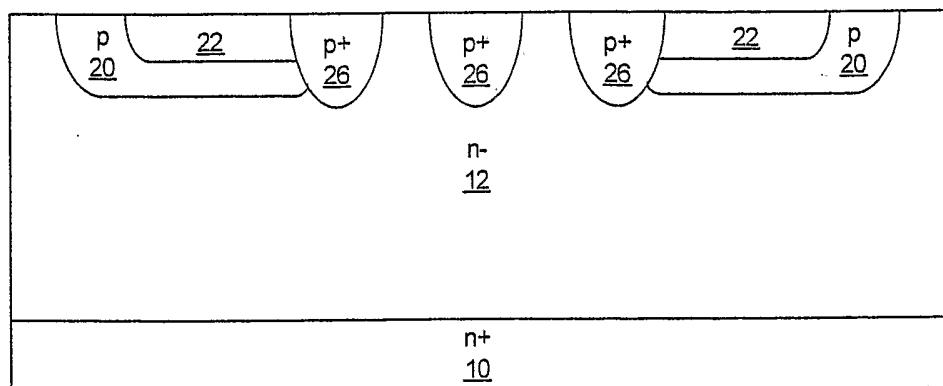


Figure 3D

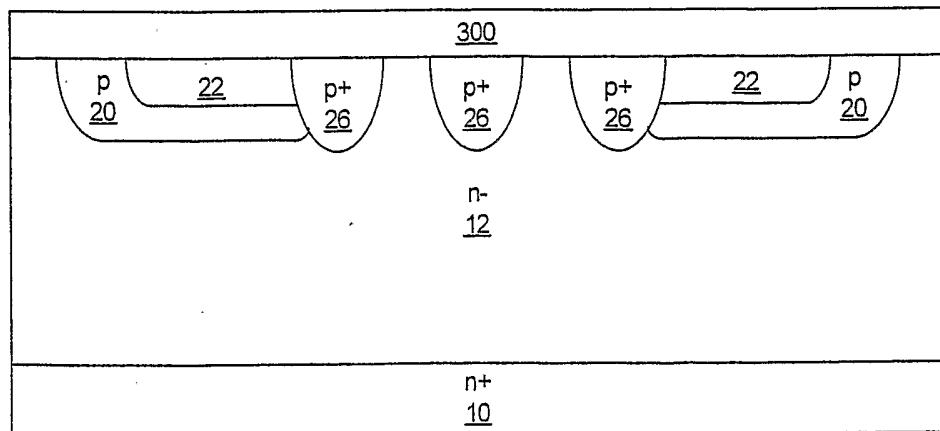


Figure 3E

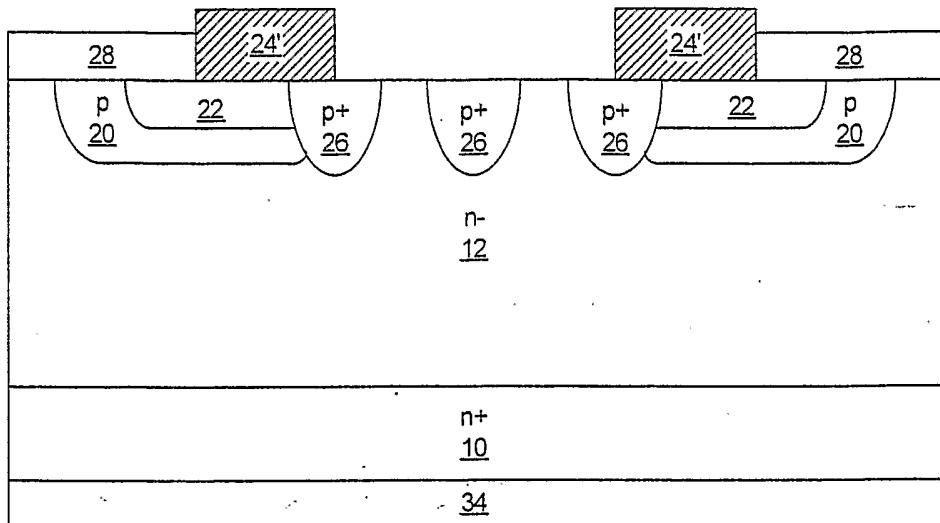


Figure 3F

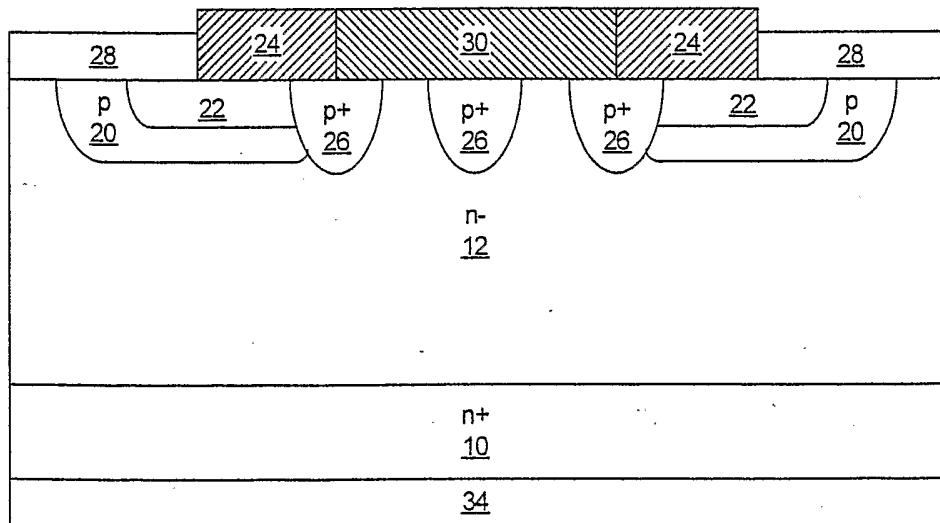


Figure 3G

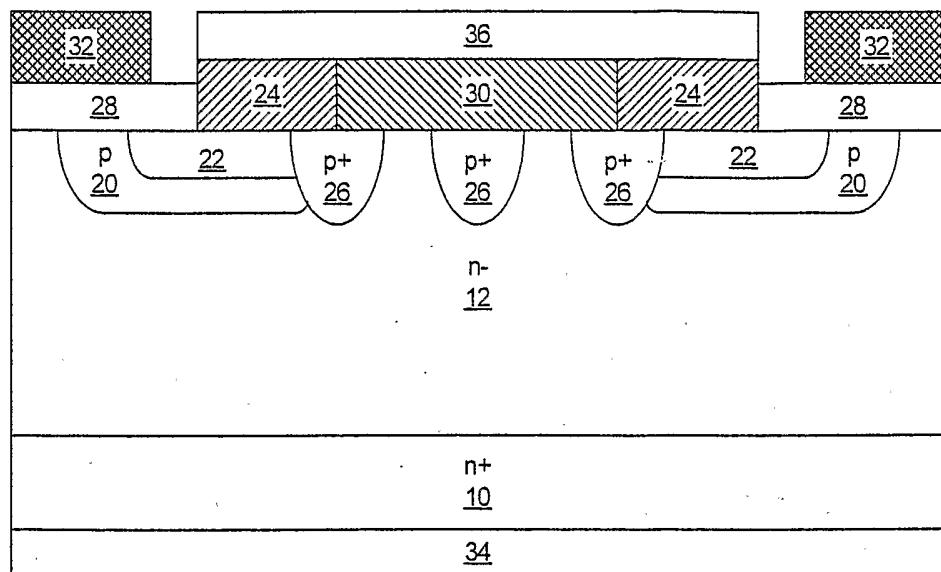


Figure 3H