October 20, 2023

To All Jurisdictional Pennsylvania Public Utilities:

As geopolitical tensions rise due to the unrest in the middle east, the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (Commission) and its federal and state stakeholders remind utilities to remain vigilant for cybersecurity threats that could impact their critical infrastructure. During this heightened state of cybersecurity awareness, the Commission recommends that utilities utilize the cybersecurity tips and information provided by the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) located on their National Cyber Awareness System (NCAS).   The NCAS offers a variety of information for users with varied technical expertise.

In addition to reviewing the NCAS information, there is a heightened level of concern about the Iranian cyberattack capabilities in response to the pending war between Israel and Hamas. Iran is a supporter of Hamas and there are concerns that it may try to use its advanced cyber capabilities to launch cyber-attacks against U.S. critical infrastructure to bring attention to the war. More information about Iran's cyber threat capabilities can be seen at CISA's webpage entitled "Iran Cyber Threat Overview and Advisories."

The Commission also recommends that utilities review the information on CISA's Shields Up website. This website provides steps organizations can take to ensure that:

- The likelihood of a damaging cyber intrusion is reduced.
- A potential intrusion is quickly detected.
- An organization is prepared to respond if an intrusion does occur.
- An organization has maximized their resilience in the face of a destructive cyber incident.

Finally, if your company is a victim of a cyber attack you should report the incident to CISA at: https://www.cisa.gov/report. CISA will document the information and they may be able to assist you with your recovery efforts. You can also notify the appropriate regional FBI office if you have been the victim of a cybercrime like a malware or ransomware attack. The FBI can assist utilities with conducting criminal investigations and can prosecute threat actors around the world. Their regional offices are in Pittsburgh and Philadelphia. The Pittsburgh Office number is 412-432-4000 and the Philadelphia Office number is 215-418-4000.

Pennsylvania utilities should also report cyber attacks to the Pennsylvania Criminal Intelligence Center (PaCIC). PaCIC is the primary All-Hazards Fusion Center for the

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. PaCIC coordinates the intake, processing and dissemination of intelligence and analysis concerning all threats and hazards to the Commonwealth. You can contact PaCIC at:

- 1-888-292-1919
- Email: tips@pa.gov

Please note, cyber attacks identified in the Commission's cyber attack reporting regulations (52 Pa. Code §§ 57.11 (electric), 59.11 (gas), 61.11 (steam heating) and 65.2 (water)) need to be reported to the Commission's Lead Emergency Agency Representative (AREP) at 717-941-0003.

Please let me know if you have any questions regarding this notification. I can be reached at 717-425-5327 or via email at miholko@pa.gov.

Respectfully,

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