October 18, 2024

To All Jurisdictional Pennsylvania Water/Wastewater Utilities:

In July, the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) informed water/wastewater utilities about credible cybersecurity threat intelligence that it received from the National Security Council (NSC), Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). These agencies informed the PUC that threat actors were targeting the water/wastewater sector with the goal of infiltrating utility critical infrastructure to compromise it for financial or military purposes. These agencies strongly urged water/wastewater utilities to bolster their cybersecurity efforts and adopt Cybersecurity Industry Best Practices (CIBPs) to help mitigate the risks posed by nation-state and criminal threat actors.

The Commission likewise recommended that water/wastewater utilities prepare action plans that identified, remediated, or mitigated high-risk cybersecurity vulnerabilities and documented any others that could pose a threat to their critical infrastructure. The PUC also recommended that water/wastewater utilities use the free cybersecurity assessments and tools provided by CISA, EPA, and the American Water Works Association (AWWA). These tools include:

* EPA's *Water Cybersecurity Assessment Tool (WCAT)*
* CISA's industry best practice *Water and Wastewater Cybersecurity* website
* AWWA's *Cybersecurity Management Tool*

Finally, the PUC informed the water/wastewater community that it would partner with CISA and EPA to hold cybersecurity seminars to help develop your vulnerability and risk management programs. The first of these seminars will be on November 15th from 9 AM to 11 AM via a MS Teams Live meeting which will be sent to you via email. The meeting will include Presenters from CISA and EPA. For more information about the meeting, please refer to the attached PUC Water/Wastewater Cybersecurity Summit Agenda and Biography Sheet. The PUC strongly urges that all water/wastewater utilities attend this seminar to help you bolster your cybersecurity efforts and programs.

Respectfully,

Michael Holko, Director, Office of Cybersecurity Compliance and Oversight
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