

Topics for Written Responses and Discussion at the Missouri Public Service Commission Security Workshop - July 2017

I. Intended Audience, Participants, and Goals

The intention of this workshop is to bring together the Public Service Commission (PSC) with representatives of both regulated and unregulated utilities (investor owned, cooperative, and municipal, electric, natural gas, water, sewer, and telecommunications utilities), trade groups, industry associations, and other state agencies to discuss cyber and physical security issues with the following goals:

- Examine protections available or still necessary to prevent disclosure of information related to cyber and physical security of critical infrastructure.
- The development of cyber and physical security measures and metrics, and the potential usefulness of reporting such measures and metrics.
- The development of a method (formal or informal) of information sharing amongst Missouri utilities related to cyber and physical security.
- The development of mutual aid agreements between utilities in reference to cyber and physical security incidents.
- Including cyber-related issues within emergency response plans, and if and how that relates to the current SEMA initiative to rework emergency response plans within the emergency support function (ESF) frameworks' all hazards approach, specifically ESF12 – Energy

II. Safeguarding Critical Infrastructure Information

A. *Is there a need for additional protections other than those already in place to safeguard critical infrastructure security information?*

Shielding security information on critical infrastructure from public disclosure is currently subject to widely varying interpretations. Are there structural or procedural protections that could be created or enhanced to prevent security information from public disclosure thereby enhancing information sharing between utilities and the PSC?

Bruce McMillin, Missouri S&T: Everyone must be in compliance with FERC requirements. The difficulty is that these have not necessarily kept pace with technology. There are several assets that utilities should protect. NISTIR 7628 suggests that utilities should not disclose usage information to 3rd parties so that they will not use them for marketing purposes. From a general privacy concern, individual usage data collected at a fine enough frequency and can be disaggregated using Non Intrusive Load Monitoring techniques to understand power usage down to the appliance level. Within electric microgrids, customers down to the neighborhood level, if given access to this information, will be able to infer their neighbor's personal behavior. As such, usage data should not be widely disseminated.

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From a security point of view, disclosure of operating conditions and controls is prevented by NERC CIP requirements. NIST 800-030, Guide to Risk Management, indicates that system boundaries should be drawn. The relationship between smart power electronics, microgrids, and other entities may become privy to confidential information on configuration settings, potentially leaking state information such as line loading. This could lead to economic gaming and potentially integrity attacks.

From an integrity point of view, both NERC CIP and the National Academies see SCADA systems, their actuators, and data as being in a common security domain, separated only from business processes. This is not going to be viable going forward as new smart components, energy providers, and cloud infrastructures provide potential vectors for attack – the current solution is to simply trust all components potentially ensuring validity through asymmetric encryption. This is only partially adequate as these techniques do not protect against internal compromise of such resources.

Missouri S&T has the expertise to perform security assessments on complex power systems looking at combined cyber and physical attacks in these modern environments.

B. What would those additional protections look like?

Sections 610.021(18) RSMo and 610.021(19) RSMo provide exceptions to the general rule concerning open public records for state critical infrastructure and security information. Can this language be used as a basis for additional exceptions to open public records? What protection does Section 386.480 RSMo provide? What other protections are in federal law and rules that could be used as a basis for any such proposed language? Are there procedural steps that can be taken in sharing information that would prohibit disclosure?

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III. Cyber security standards and monitoring

- A. *Considering cyber and critical infrastructure presidential directives and orders, how can the PSC assist in partnering with federal agencies in support of these directives and orders?*

While both the Presidential Policy Directive “United States Cyber Incident Coordination” (PPD-41; July 26, 2016), and the Presidential Executive Order “Strengthening the Cybersecurity of Federal Networks and Critical Infrastructure” (May 11, 2017) are directed primarily at the federal responsibilities and response to cyber security and critical infrastructure, both utilize language indicating coordination with “State, local, tribal, and territorial governments, and with others as appropriate.”

- B. *How can the PSC assist the harmonization of federal and state oversight responsibilities?*

The April 2017 failure at the Larkin Street substation, a substation classified as “Low Impact” by NERC CIP Version 5, caused a considerable system failure in San Francisco. It is reasonable to assume that if asked after the outage, the average San Franciscan would consider the effect of another failure at the Larkin Street substation more than “Low Impact.” Are there infrastructure entities in Missouri, not only within electrical utilities, that are ‘in the middle’; not classified by either federal or state rules as having a high impact on customers if a failure should occur? How might these entities be identified in all utilities in Missouri? What role, if any, should the PSC have in assisting in the harmonization of state and federal responsibilities that might identify these types of infrastructure assets?

Bruce McMillin, Missouri S&T: NIST 800-030 can aid in identification of such classification as a process. Experience with the Governor’s Cybersecurity Task Force indicated that most utilities underestimated the threat to such resources.

- C. *Is there a need for cyber and physical security performance measures and metrics?*

For Missouri regulated utilities there are currently few reporting requirements for security-related incidents, whether cyber related or not. Is there a need for new security-related reporting requirements? If reporting were to be required, how might the information reported be utilized to improve security? What would constitute a reportable incident and how might that be determined? How would reporting relate to and/or improve “safe and reliable utility services at just, reasonable and affordable rates”?

What measures and metrics are currently used in the security realm, both cyber and physical? Would reporting of these measures and metrics improve security and assist

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other utilities in improving security by identifying best practices? Can these measures and

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metrics be modified to be utility customer centric? Would reporting in a manner similar to SAIDI/SAIFI-CAIDI/CAIFI be useful in improving a utilities ability to provide “safe and reliable utility services at just, reasonable and affordable rates”?

Bruce McMillin, Missouri S&T: In addition to classic power systems characterizations, the cyber vulnerabilities and ability to disrupt power system operation should not be underestimated. How do resilience estimates of attack and cyber and communications failures impact SAIDI/SAIFI-CAIDI/CAIFI?

D. Risk analysis and risk management

What methodologies are being utilized when performing risk analyses and risk management? How might these methodologies be improved? Can a mutual aid paradigm assist in risk management at the edges of an individual utilities service area?

Bruce McMillin, Missouri S&T: Again NIST 800-030 seems a reasonable approach and can be extended to include cyber and physical resources.

E. Cyber and physical security personnel and functional responsibility

Contact lists of security personnel available on a need to know basis would help in communications between utilities, regulators and first responders during and after a security event. Is there a need for a functional listing of utility security personnel? Where might such a list reside and what protections are needed to limit public disclosure? What other information might be included? Are any such mechanisms already available and currently being utilized? If so, to what extent are those being utilized?

IV. Cyber related information sharing

A. Should the PSC develop a formal group for cyber-related information exchange and/or monitoring between utilities?

The April 2017 Council on Foreign Relations contingency planning memorandum “A Cyberattack on the US Power Grid” stats that the Government Accountability Office found “unlike the financial and defense industrial base” “cybersecurity information sharing [was] weak” across the energy sector. How can the PSC support information exchange between utilities? Should a formal information exchange group be developed? If there were a formal exchange mechanism, what would the content of the information to be shared? What would the limitations be? How would those be determined?

B. Just as in the case of storm recovery, should a formal cyber-related mutual aid and assistance plan be developed?

What might a cyber-related mutual aid plan include? Unlike the storm recovery mutual aid, the systems and processes that would be supported might vary widely. Different software, hardware, processes and procedures might hamper effectiveness. Would an

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information/training exchange process need to be included in such a plan? How might a utility evaluate the fitness for support of any particular individual from another utility?

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C. Should the PSC support monitoring intelligence feeds and pushing out intelligence products for events related to Missouri?

The PSC has developed and is in the process of formalizing a relationship with the Missouri State Highway Patrol (MSHP) by way of the Missouri Information Analysis Center (MIAC). Are the current intelligence feeds sufficient for security at Missouri utilities? Might there be value in a new Missouri-centric critical infrastructure intelligence feed? What do utilities see as a void in the intelligence feeds currently being utilized? How might the PSC assist in filling such a void?

V. Cyber hazards and the State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) harmonization of emergency response plans in ESF12

A. Emergency response plans harmonization

SEMA is currently reworking emergency response plans into the ESF framework. The PSC is the lead agency for ESF12, Energy. Should cyber-related risks be contemplated while reworking ESF12 emergency response plans? How might that be accomplished? Would a cyber-related event differ from a storm-related event? What might be the differences? What would the effect of those differences be? How can those differences be addressed? How can issues pertinent to utilities not currently working on the rework of ESF12 be included? Which utilities might that be, if any?

B. Should all Missouri utilities submit updated emergency response plans on a recurring basis?

Should utilities submit response plans to PSC? If not, why not? What might be included in those plans? What should be excluded? How can those plans be shielded from public disclosure? Should those plans be submitted directly to the PSC or through cooperation with another state agency, such as the MSHP?