



## PRESIDENT'S COMMISSION ON CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROTECTION

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March 5, 1997

The Honorable Shirley A. Jackson  
Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
One White Flint North  
11555 Rockville Pike  
Rockville, MD 20852-2738

Dear Dr. Jackson:

President Clinton recently designated me Chairman of the President's Commission on Critical Infrastructure Protection. Our job is to examine the interconnections of the infrastructures crucial to the country's security, explore their vulnerability to physical and cyber threats, and recommend to the President a national policy for assuring their safety in the future. Among these critical infrastructures are electrical power systems, gas and oil storage and transportation, and water supply systems.

Our success depends on how well we understand and accommodate the concerns and interests of the owners and operators of these industries. In view of the key role played by regulatory agencies, I respectfully invite you or your designee to answer and return the attached questionnaire within 30 days of the date of this letter. We seek your views on your organization's ability to assist in protecting the operations of regulated utilities against physical and cyber threats. If there are vulnerabilities, we would like your views on how the public and private sectors can work together to correct them. I anticipate that each organization and individual accepting an invitation to advise the Commission will be listed as a contributor in the Commission's final report to the President.

Commissioners David A. Jones and Paul Rodgers are available to respond to any questions you may have. They can be reached at (703) 696-9395.

Thank you for your consideration of this important issue.

Sincerely,

Robert T. Marsh  
Chairman

Attachment

9704250134 970410  
PDR COMMS NRCC  
CORRESPONDENCE PDR

## **PRESIDENT'S COMMISSION ON CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROTECTION QUESTIONNAIRE FOR UTILITY REGULATORY AGENCIES**

Please provide your answers to this questionnaire, to the extent applicable to your organization, on separate sheets of paper, attach them to the questionnaire, and return the material within 30 days to the President's Commission on Critical Infrastructure Protection, ATTN: Energy, P.O. Box 46258, Washington, DC 20050-6258. Facsimile (703) 696-9410, Telephone (703) 696-9395.

### **MEMBERSHIP**

1. Please describe the regulatory jurisdiction of your agency, its annual budget and number of employees, and attach a list of your commissioners and key staff.

### **THREATS AND VULNERABILITIES**

2. What are the physical and cyber threats to, and vulnerabilities of, the critical infrastructures of your regulated utilities? What reports have been prepared by your agency or others regarding these threats and vulnerabilities? What are the critical links in the infrastructure that may underlie a vulnerability?
3. What changes in civil and criminal laws would you recommend to afford greater protection for critical infrastructures?

### **STRATEGIES**

4. What action could your agency take to assist your regulated utilities in protecting their critical infrastructures against physical and cyber threats? Would your agency assist in publicizing the urgent need to protect against such threats. Should there be industry-wide infrastructure assurance standards to protect against such threats? If so, would your agency assist in the development of such standards? Does your agency have the authority to mandate compliance with such standards by its regulated utilities?

### **PUBLIC-PRIVATE SECTOR COOPERATION**

5. What problems would be created if the public and private sectors were to jointly ensure adequate protection of critical infrastructures (both physical and cyber)?
6. How could the public and private sectors share specific threat and vulnerability information, on a non-adversarial and non-attribution basis, and pursue solutions to adequately protect these infrastructures? What role should your agency perform in gathering and sharing information?

7. What types of model security guidelines, either physical or cyber, has your agency developed? Are these guidelines mandatory or voluntary, and to what extent have they been implemented? What issues should be considered in order for the public and private sectors to effectively address these threats (e.g., regulatory or antitrust issues, incentives for private sector to better assure critical infrastructures, liability insurance)?
8. What action could the government take to facilitate protection of our critical infrastructures (e.g., sharing intelligence information, tax incentives for infrastructure protection, crisis assistance)?
9. What actions would you recommend the government not take?

## STUDIES

10. Has your organization published, or does it plan to publish, any studies on the protection of critical infrastructures? If so, please identify. Such studies can be held in confidence by the PCCIP, without disclosure pursuant to Freedom of Information requests, because it is a part of the Office of the President.
11. Are you aware of such studies by other organizations that the PCCIP should examine? If so, please identify.

## CONCLUSION

12. Do you have any other comments regarding this topic?