



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

Office of
Cybersecurity, Energy Security,
and Emergency Response

National Cybersecurity Education Colloquium (NCEC)

Dr. Cynthia Hsu, Cybersecurity Program Manager, Rural and Municipal Utilities

September 20, 2023



BLUF

Cybersecurity Workforce Strategy for CESER

This presentation was given at the 2023 National Cybersecurity Education Colloquium

BLUF

Cybersecurity Workforce Strategy for CESER

Current premise:

Energy asset owners and operators need the resources and staff with the knowledge, skills, and abilities to successfully adapt and respond to a constantly changing cybersecurity threat landscape.

What problem(s) are we trying to solve?

This presentation was given at the 2023
National Cybersecurity Education Colloquium

What problem(s) are we trying to solve?

- Not enough training?
- Not the right training?
 - Effective training methods? Delivery?
 - The right content? What does the market need?
- Limited access to training?

This presentation was given at the 2023 National Cybersecurity Education Colloquium

What problem(s) are we trying to solve?

- Not enough training?
- Not the right training?
 - Effective training methods? Delivery?
 - The right content? What does the market need?
- Limited access to training?
- Not training the right audience(s)
- Recruitment issue
 - Potential candidates not interested
 - Human resources infrastructure

CESER Mission

Strengthen the security and resilience of the U.S. energy sector from cyber, physical, and climate-based risks and disruptions.

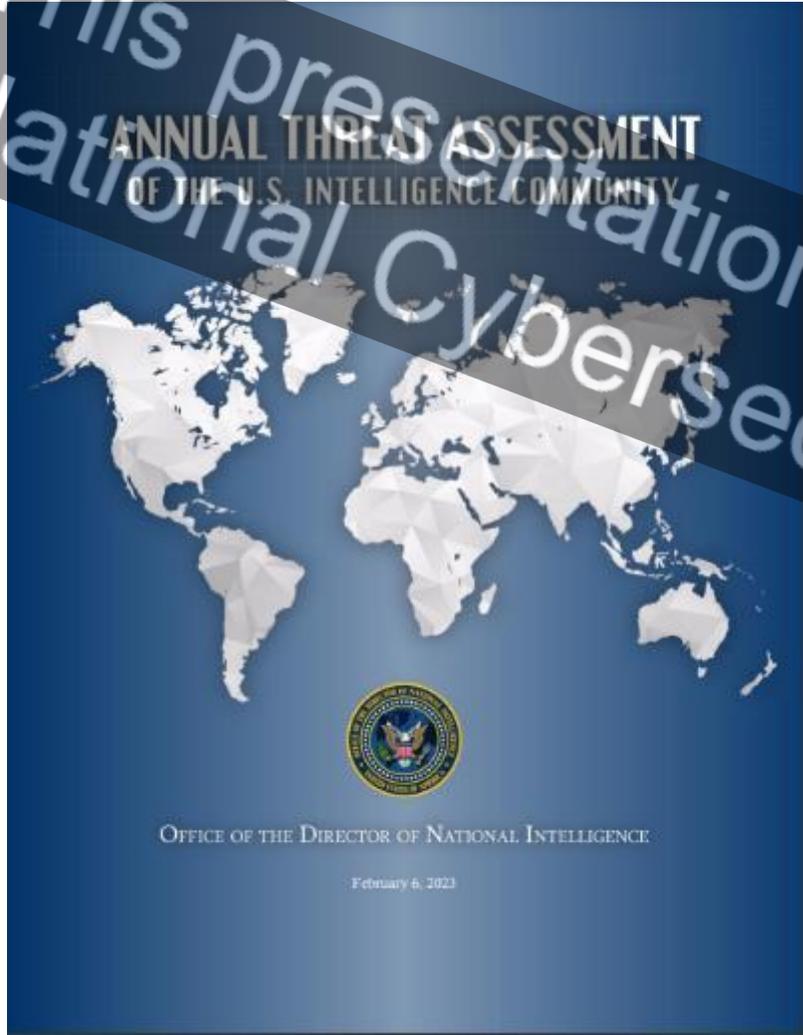
Evolving Threats to Energy Infrastructure



CESER Priorities

- **Risk Assessment.** Identifying, analyzing, and prioritizing risks to the energy sector.
- **Risk Mitigation.** Developing policies, tools, and technologies and providing technical assistance to mitigate risks to the energy sector.
- **Sector Collaboration.** Strengthening the security of U.S. energy systems through enhanced public and private sector collaboration.
- **Preparedness and Response.** Facilitating energy sector preparedness, response, and restoration efforts in collaboration with other Federal agencies, the private sector, and state, local, tribal, and territorial communities and international partners.
- **Energy Supply.** Mitigating the impacts of energy supply disruptions on American businesses and consumers.

Cybersecurity Threats



“China almost certainly is capable of launching cyber attacks that would *disrupt critical infrastructure services within the United States, including against oil and gas pipelines [...]*”³



“Russia has the ability to execute cyber attacks in the United States that generate localized, temporary disruptive effects on critical infrastructure—such as *disrupting an electrical distribution network for at least a few hours [...]*”¹



“Iran’s opportunistic approach to cyber attacks makes *critical infrastructure owners in the United States susceptible to being targeted [...]*”³



“Transnational cyber criminals are increasing the number, scale, and sophistication of *ransomware attacks, fueling a virtual ecosystem that threatens to cause greater disruptions of critical services [...]*”²

Annual Threat Assessment of the U.S. Intelligence Community
¹2019, ²2022, ³2023

Cybersecurity Threats

Criminal Actions:

- business email compromise (BEC)
- ransomware

Direct impacts on OT systems:

- Ukraine 2015
- Ukraine 2016

 The New York Times

Cyberattack Forces a Shutdown of a Top U.S. Pipeline

The operator, Colonial Pipeline, said it had halted systems for its 5,500 miles of pipeline after being hit by a ransomware attack.

May 13, 2021



[Colonial Pipeline Cyber Incident | Department of Energy](#)

 Bloomberg.com

Russian Hackers Tried Damaging Power Equipment, Ukraine

...

... military intelligence agency launched a cyberattack on Ukrainian energy facilities, according to Ukrainian cybersecurity officials.



Physical Security Threats

- Rogue actors and domestic violent extremists targeting critical energy infrastructure
- 97% resulted in no grid impact and 3% resulted in outages or other grid impacts, between 2020-2022
- Notable increase in repeat and clustered incidents

CNN

[A vulnerable power grid is in the crosshairs of domestic extremist groups](#)

... fired at two power substations in Moore County, North Carolina, ... In 2022 there were 25 "actual physical attacks" reported on power...



The New York Times

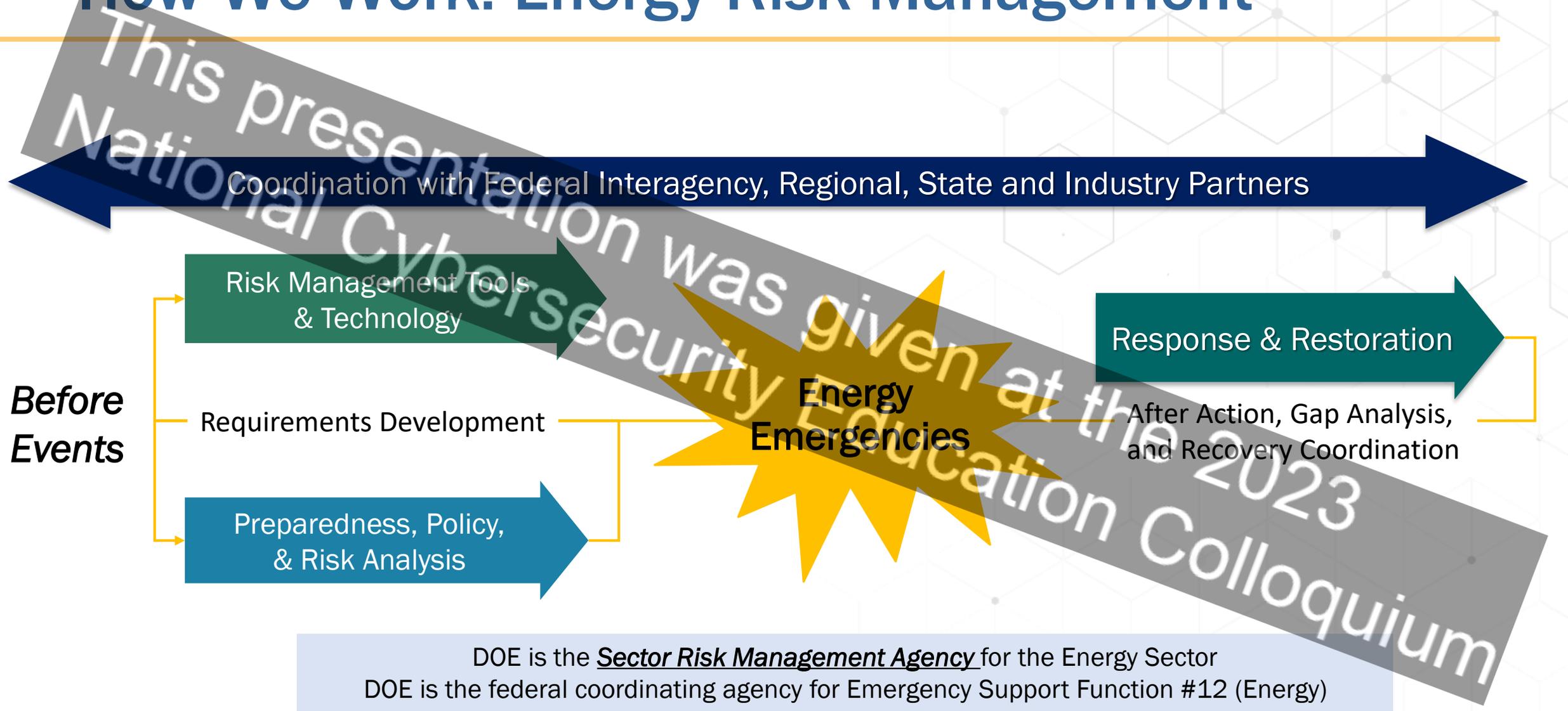
[Pair Charged With Plotting to Attack Baltimore Electrical Grid](#)

WASHINGTON — Federal law enforcement officials have arrested two ... the plot to jarring details of her personal and physical travails.



Information provided by E-ISAC

How We Work: Energy Risk Management



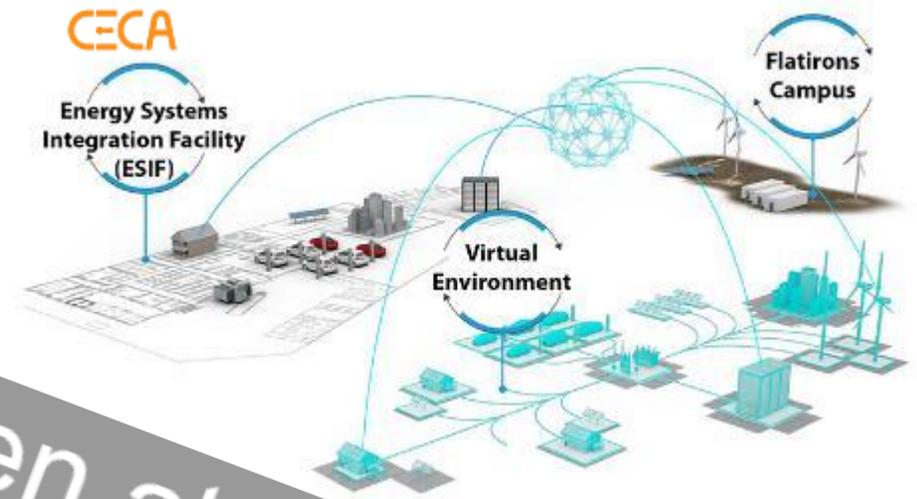
DOE is the Sector Risk Management Agency for the Energy Sector
DOE is the federal coordinating agency for Emergency Support Function #12 (Energy)

CESER Tools & Technologies

CESER leads research, development and demonstration of tools, technologies, and techniques that help mitigate and manage cyber and physical risks to critical energy systems.

This includes:

- **All-hazards Tools and Technologies** to address natural and human made physical risks to energy systems such as extreme weather, climate change, seismic activity, electromagnetic pulse (EMP) and geomagnetic disturbances (GMD)
- **Cyber Tools and Technologies** that enable innovative protection, detection, and response solutions to address energy delivery systems and supply chain cybersecurity risks and enable situational awareness and information sharing.



Clean Energy Cybersecurity Accelerator (CECA)
Test Range



Cyber Testing for Resilient Industrial Control Systems (CyTRICS)
Testing Methodology

CESER Tools & Technologies

Today's research is tomorrow's capabilities

Cybersecurity for Energy Delivery Systems (CEDS) Fact Sheets

Office of Cybersecurity, Energy Security, and Emergency Response | Cybersecurity for Energy Delivery Systems (CEDS) Fact Sheets

Search:

Status: Active Inactive

Prime Performer: ABB, Inc. ABB, Inc., Inc.

CYBERSECURITY FOR ENERGY DELIVERY SYSTEMS (CEDS) FACT SHEETS

Showing 1 to 10 of 170 entries

PROJECT NAME	PRIME PERFORMER	PROJECT PARTNERS	STATUS	PROJECT DESCRIPTION
Cyber Resilient Energy Delivery Capabilities (CREDC)	CREDC	University of Illinois	Active	Resilient Workforce
A Conceptual Framework for the Assessment of Integrated Energy Storage Resilience	CREDC	University of Illinois	Active	Renewable, ESR, Energy Storage, Resilience
		University of		

[Cybersecurity for Energy Delivery Systems \(CEDS\) Fact Sheets](#) | Department of Energy

This presentation was given at the 2023 National Cybersecurity Education Colloquium

Cyber Research, Development, and Deployment

This presentation was given at the 2020 National Cybersecurity Education Colloquium

RD&D PROJECT PARTNERS INCLUDE:

- NATIONAL LABORATORIES
- UNIVERSITIES
- VENDORS & SERVICE PROVIDERS
- ENERGY COMPANIES
- ASSOCIATIONS AND STANDARD ORGANIZATIONS

COVERAGE AREA OF PARTNER POWER PROVIDERS

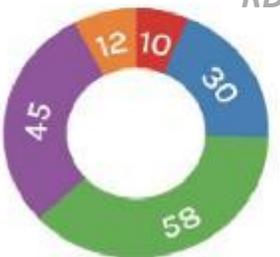
More than 1,500 utilities in all 50 states have purchased products developed under RMT research

Delivered over 90 products, tools, and technologies since 2010 to reduce energy sector cyber risk

57% of U.S. electricity customers are served by power providers participating in RMT R&D

All R&D projects included an energy sector partner to drive real-world solutions

More than 155 partners have participated in competitively funded projects



CESER Tools & Technologies

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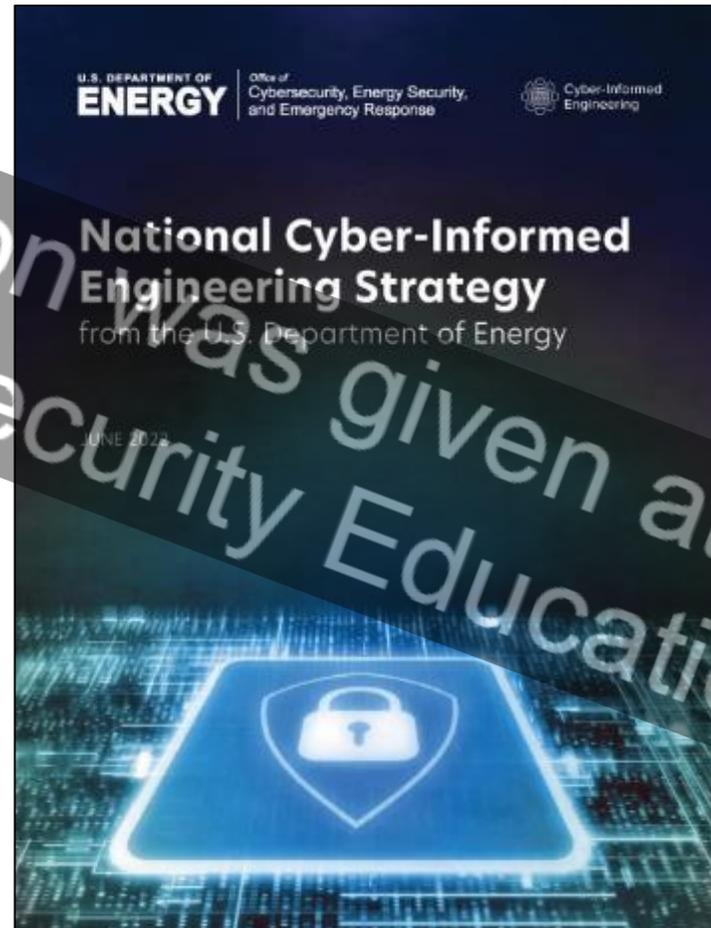
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[Cybersecurity for Energy Delivery Systems \(CEDS\) Fact Sheets | Department of Energy](#)



[FINAL DOE National CIE Strategy - June 2022_0.pdf \(energy.gov\)](#)

CESER Tools & Technologies

Today's research is tomorrow's capabilities

Cybersecurity for Energy Delivery Systems (CEDS) Fact Sheets

Office of Cybersecurity, Energy Security, and Emergency Response • Cybersecurity for Energy Delivery Systems (CEDS) Fact Sheets

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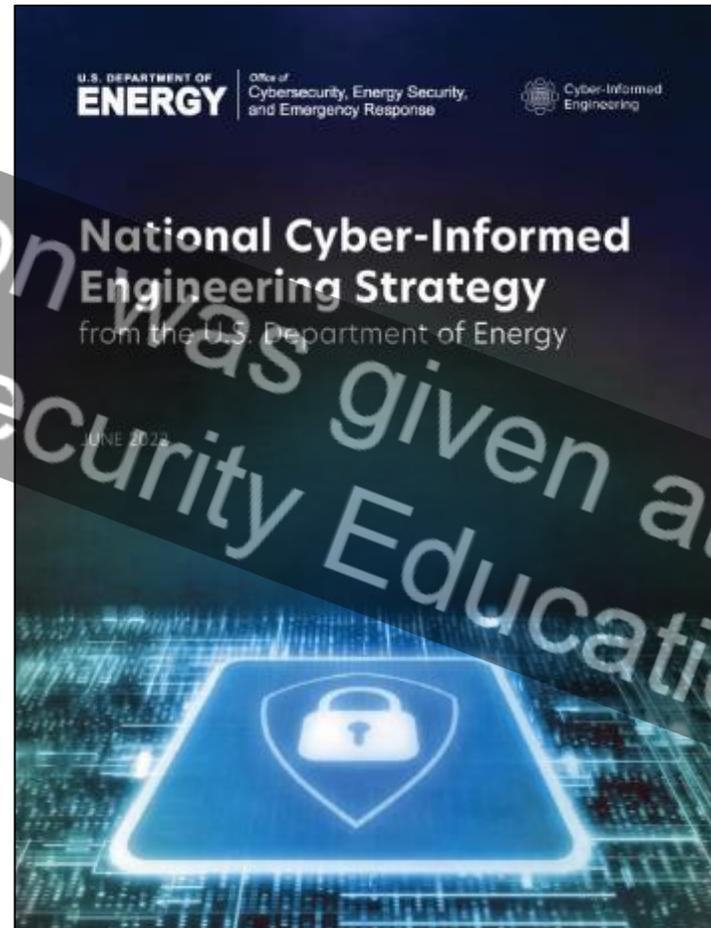
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[Cybersecurity for Energy Delivery Systems \(CEDS\) Fact Sheets | Department of Energy](#)



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 **C2M2**

Cybersecurity Capability Maturity Model

2023

Colloquium

Cybersecurity Capability Maturity Model (C2M2)



Cybersecurity Capability Maturity Model

Scalable, sector-specific guidance and tools that organizations use to evaluate, prioritize, and improve their cybersecurity capabilities.

<https://www.energy.gov/ceser/cybersecurity-capability-maturity-model-c2m2>

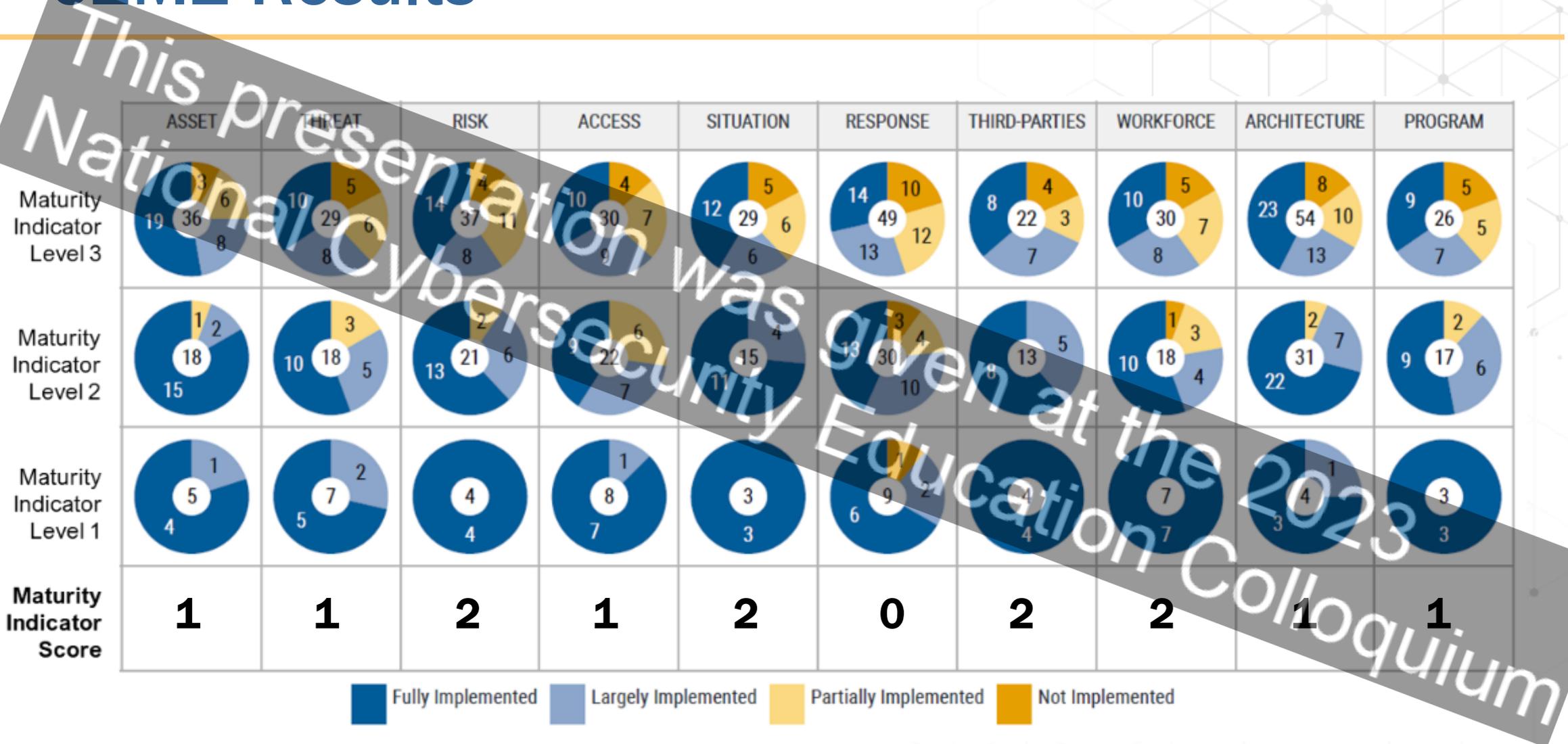
C2M2 Model: 10 Domains

1. Asset, Change, and Configuration Management (ASSET)
2. Threat and Vulnerability Management (THREAT)
3. Risk Management (RISK)
4. Identify and Access Management (ACCESS)
5. Situational Awareness (SITUATION)
6. Event and Incident Response, Continuity of Operations (RESPONSE)
7. Third-Party Risk Management (THIRD-PARTIES)
8. Workforce Management (WORKFORCE)
9. Cybersecurity Architecture (ARCHITECTURE)
10. Cybersecurity Program Management (PROGRAM)

C2M2 Maturity Indicator Levels (MIL)

Level	Characteristics
MIL0	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Practices are not performed
MIL1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Initial practices are performed but may be ad hoc
MIL2	<p>Management characteristics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Practices are documentedAdequate resources are provided to support the process <p>Approach characteristic:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Practices are more complete or advanced than at MIL1
MIL3	<p>Management characteristics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Activities are guided by policies (or other organizational directives)Responsibility, accountability, and authority for performing the practices are assignedPersonnel performing the practices have adequate skills and knowledgeThe effectiveness of activities is evaluated and tracked <p>Approach characteristic:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Practices are more complete or advanced than at MIL2

C2M2 Results



CESER as the SRMA

Energy was identified as one of the 16 critical functions in Presidential Policy Directive-21 (PPD-21). Each critical function has an associated Sector Risk Management Agency (SRMA). The Department of Energy is the SRMA for energy. CESER is tasked to carry out this function as a core part of its mission.

The SRMA is responsible for:

- Representing sector-specific interests in the national cybersecurity strategy
- Leading sector incident management response
- Providing technical and logistics support for the energy sector to identify risks and vulnerabilities
- Supporting the Department of Homeland Security Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency's (CISA) role as national cyber response coordinator

Response and Restoration

Facilitating the restoration of disrupted or damaged energy systems

- All Hazards: cyber, physical, environmental
- Working through FEMA's National Response Framework, built on the National Incident Management System
- Scalable, flexible, and adaptable coordination structures

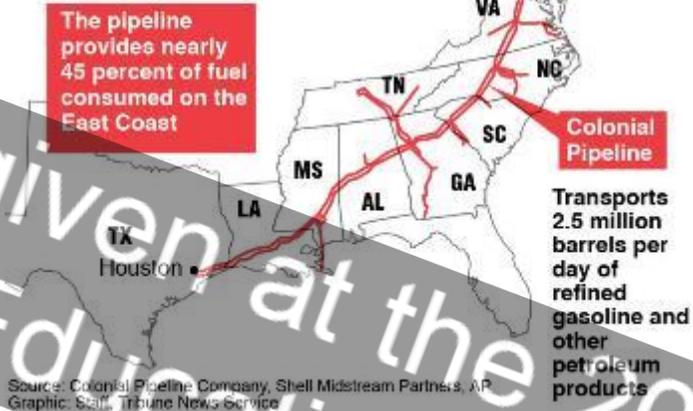
Emergency Support Functions:

How the Nation responds to disasters and emergencies

- | | | | |
|--------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|--|
| ▪ ESF1 | Transportation | ▪ ESF9 | Urban Search & Rescue |
| ▪ ESF2 | Communications | ▪ ESF10 | Oil & Hazardous Materials Response |
| ▪ ESF3 | Public Works & Engineering | ▪ ESF11 | Agriculture & Natural Resources |
| ▪ ESF4 | Firefighting | ▪ ESF12 Energy | |
| ▪ ESF5 | Emergency Management | ▪ ESF13 | Public Safety & Security |
| ▪ ESF6 | Mass Care, Housing & Human Services | ▪ ESF14 | Cross-Sector Business & Infrastructure |
| ▪ ESF7 | Resources Support | ▪ ESF15 | External Affairs |
| ▪ ESF8 | Public Health & Medical Services | | |

Cyberattack on U.S. pipeline is linked to criminal gang

The cyberextortion attempt that has forced the shutdown of a vital U.S. pipeline was carried out by a criminal gang known as DarkSide.



2022 Response Summary

169

Days Activated

38

Responders Deployed



• Three Hurricanes



• One Tropical Storm



• Severe Winter Weather



• Flooding



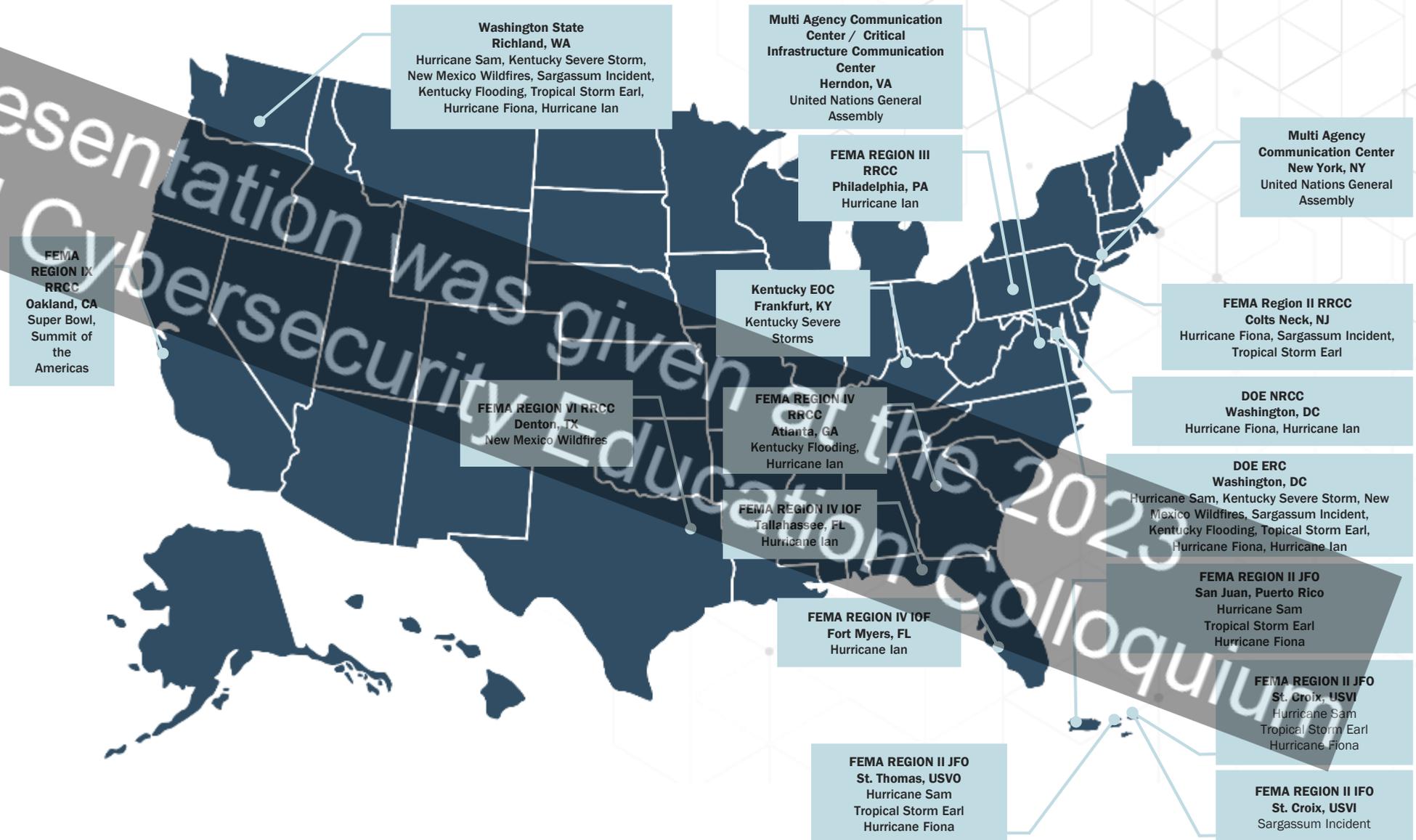
• Wildfires



• Sargassum Seaweed Overgrowth



• Four National Special Security Events



This presentation was given at the 2023 National Cybersecurity Education Colloquium

Collaboration and Coordination is Essential

State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial (SLTT) Governments

Industry Trade Assoc.

Industry Councils

Energy Government Coordinating Council (EGCC)

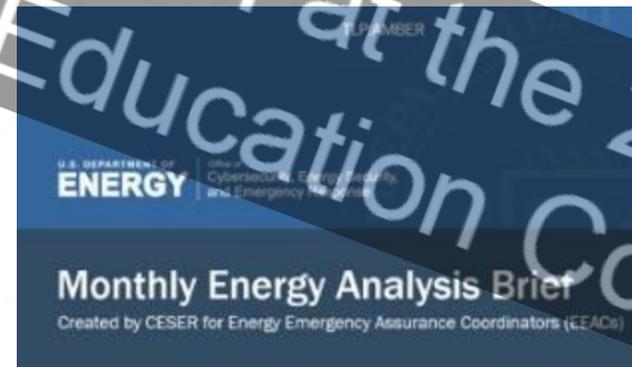
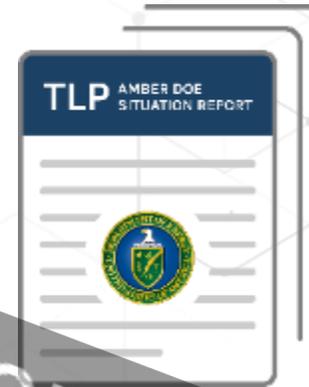


NASEO NARUC NGA

This presentation was given at the 2023 National Cybersecurity Education Colloquium

Energy Emergency Assurance Coordinators (EEACs)

- The EEAC Program is a cooperative effort between CESER, NASEO, NARUC, NGA and NEMA to enable information sharing leading up to and during an energy disruption or emergency
- States designate primary and secondary contacts to share information with DOE and other states during events
- Provides credible, accurate, and timely source of information and updates on actions taken.
- Goal is to improve information-sharing and communication and lower response times.
- To provide ongoing situational awareness, the SLTT Program distributes Monthly Energy Analysis briefs that analyze the impact and significance of energy disruptions.



[Energy Emergency Assurance Coordinators \(EEAC\) Program](#)



SLTT Capacity Building

State Governance, Planning, And Financing To Enhance Energy Resilience

Dec. 22, 2021 | Publications

This guide provides examples of state-wide resilience planning, and potential funding and financing options.

Introduction

From 2011 to 2020, the United States faced an average of **\$93 billion** in annual natural disasters, with an average cost of **\$93 billion** in damages. Major natural disasters can devastate communities, require expensive repairs and improvements. For this guide, we are defining resilience as the ability to withstand disasters effectively, and recover more quickly and to a more improved state.

Threats to energy infrastructure are not just physical. Cyberattacks on energy infrastructure are a growing concern. In 2021, targets of cybercriminals, just behind the manufacturing sector, experiencing 11.1% of known cyberattacks. In 2021, many of those attacks did not affect energy supply. The 2021 Colonial Pipeline ransomware attack, which limited operations on the East Coast, underscores the potential threat to the energy sector.

The costs and impacts of disasters affecting energy infrastructure are not felt evenly across an economy or population. Lower-income communities, and communities on the front lines of climate change tend to bear a disproportionate burden in terms of resources needed to return to normalcy, health impacts, and natural disasters and malicious attacks become more frequent. Shifting attention to pre-hazard mitigation – investing in advance of an incident. Energy resilience planning activities, as investing in hazard mitigation saves six times more than the cost of recovery.



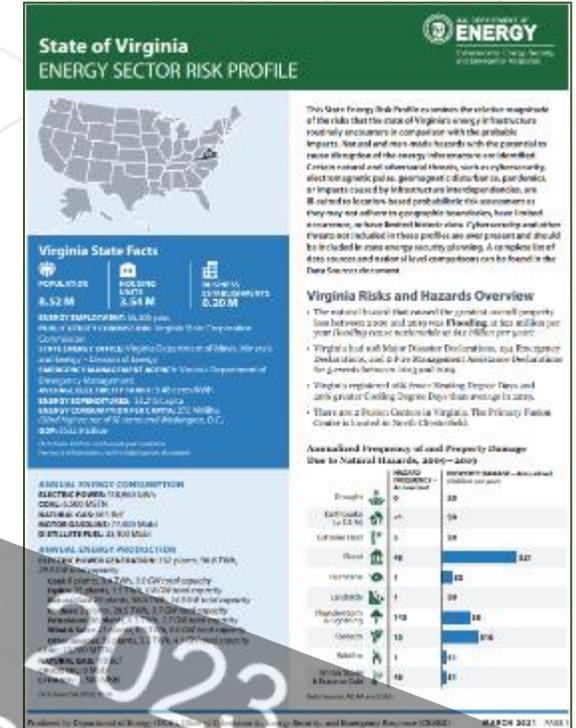
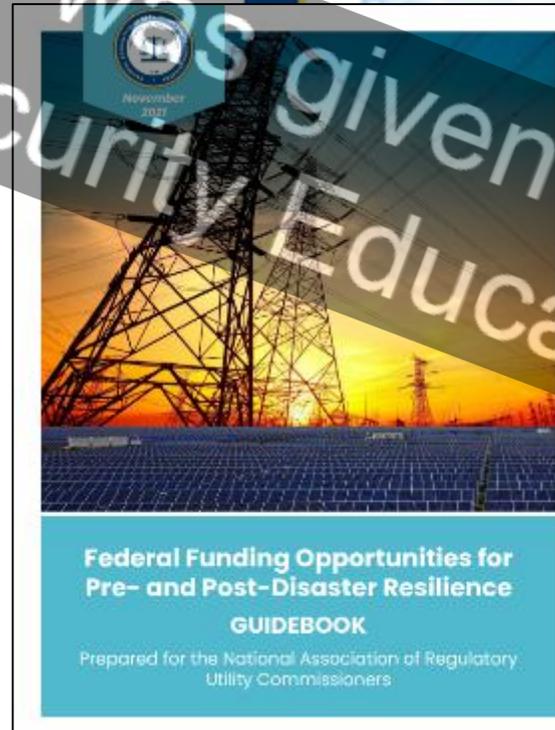
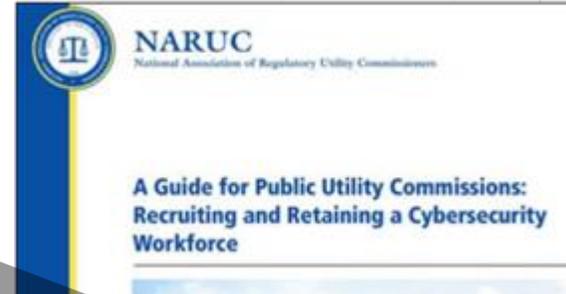
State Action Guide for Energy Resilience Projects Under FEMA's Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Program and Other Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) Programs

Quick Guide

November 2022



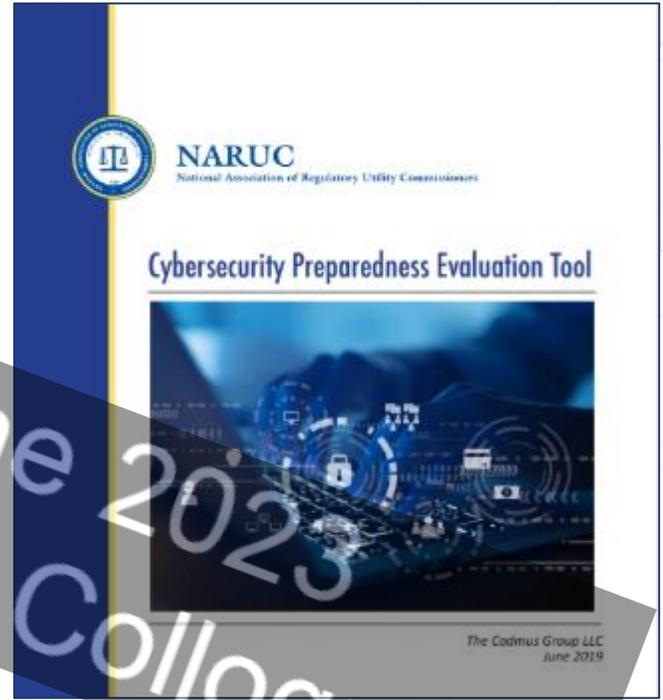
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
Office of Cybersecurity, Energy Security, and Emergency Response



SLTT Program Resource Library

NARUC Cybersecurity Manual

- Cybersecurity Strategy Development Guide
- Cybersecurity Preparedness: Questions for Utilities
- Cybersecurity Preparedness Evaluation Tool
- Cybersecurity Tabletop Exercise Guide
- Cybersecurity Glossary



This presentation was given at the 2023 National Cybersecurity Education Colloquium

President Biden's Letter to Governors



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 18, 2022

Letter Urging States to put mandatory Cybersecurity Protections in Place

Questions in the Letter:

- “Do you have the authority to set and enforce cybersecurity baselines standards for the utilities in your state, and if so, have you done it?”
- Have the Public Utility Commissions or others in your state set minimum cybersecurity standards for your critical infrastructure? If not, ask them to do so.
- Do you or your Public Utility Commissions have the ability to require critical infrastructure to take emergency cybersecurity measures? If so, have you or they required utilities to step up their security in light of the current conflict?
- Have you and your emergency management team considered how you would respond to a cyber attack that has physical consequences, including impact to the operations of your critical infrastructure?”

Exercises

Clear Path

Annual all-hazards energy security and resilience exercise.

DOE has engaged over 1,400 energy sector and cross-infrastructure sector partners



2023 Clear Path Participating Organizations



Liberty Eclipse

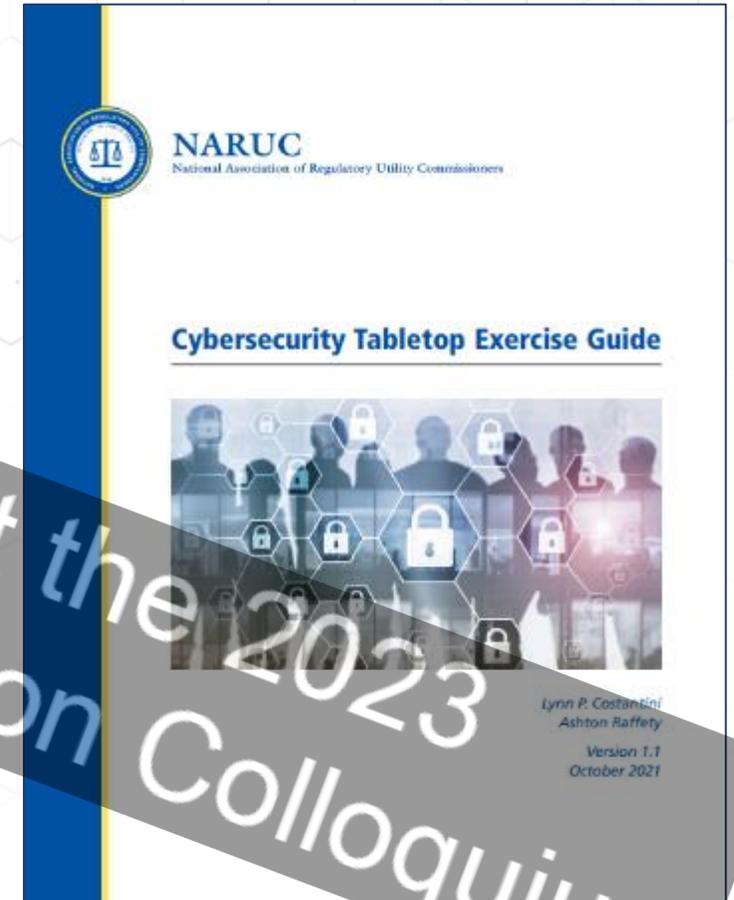
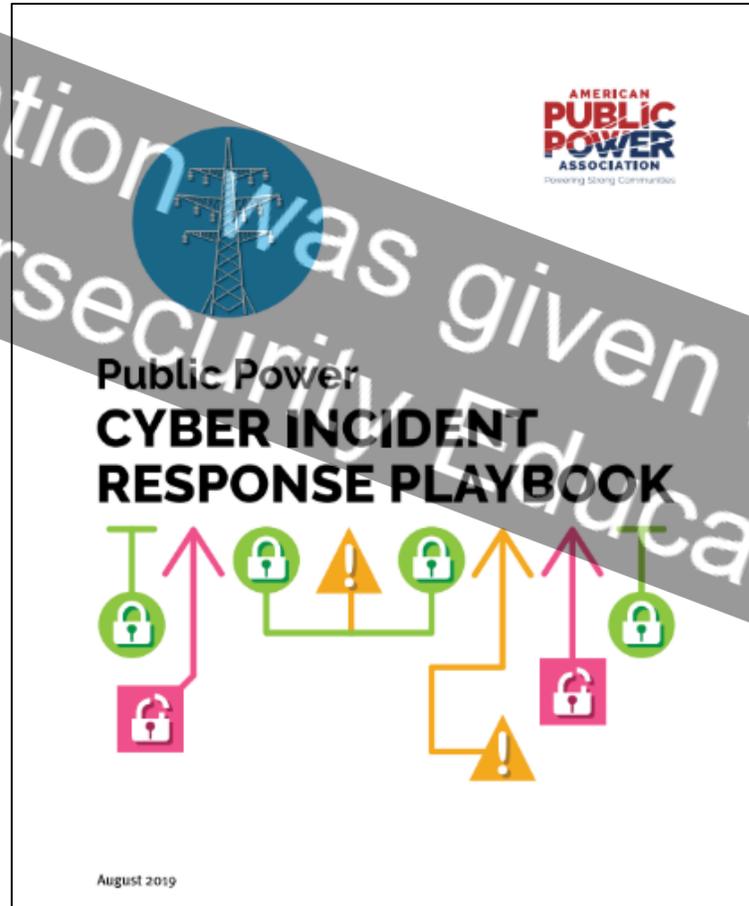
ICS-focused energy cybersecurity exercise



EXERCISE SCENARIO

Liberty Eclipse incorporates a scenario-based format informed by and derived from real and hypothetical yet plausible, events. The exercise series focuses on cyber-attacks across multiple critical infrastructure sectors, including energy sectors and evaluates impacts within critical industrial control systems (ICS), as well as the potential for future physical effects on critical infrastructure. Exercise participants are given an opportunity to respond to scenario elements from the perspectives of their real-world roles and responsibilities to identify strengths and areas for improvement.

Exercises



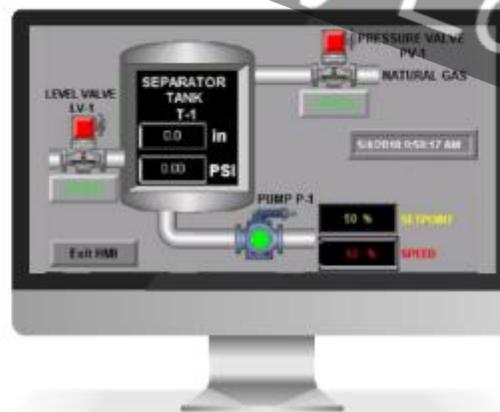
[Cybersecurity
Tabletop Exercise](#)

Training and Workforce Development



Tools Used During Workshop

- Kali Linux
- hping3
- EditorMetasploit
- VNC Viewer
- Wireshark
- MiniMega
- OpenPLC
- Nmap
- Ettercap



- 82 training sessions
- Trained approximately 3,700 personnel

[CyberStrike Training - INL](#)

Training and Workforce Development

- 3rd Cohort
- 21 Alumni



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF **ENERGY** | Office of Cybersecurity, Energy Security, and Emergency Response

Operational Technology Defender Fellowship

Elite Training For Energy Sector Front-Line Managers

[OTDefender: Operational Technical Defender Fellowship \(inl.gov\)](https://inl.gov)

Training and Workforce Development

- 3rd Cohort
- 21 Alumni

4th Cohort Applications now being accepted

DUE: September 30, 2023

A banner for the Operational Technology Defender Fellowship 2023. The banner features a dark blue header with the U.S. Department of Energy logo and the text "Office of Cybersecurity, Energy Security, and Emergency Response". The main body of the banner has a light blue background with a network diagram and a shield icon. The text "Operational Technology Defender Fellowship" is prominently displayed in large, bold, blue letters. Below this, it says "Elite Training For Energy Sector Front-Line Managers". A diagonal watermark reads "This presentation was given at the National Cybersecurity Education Colloquium".

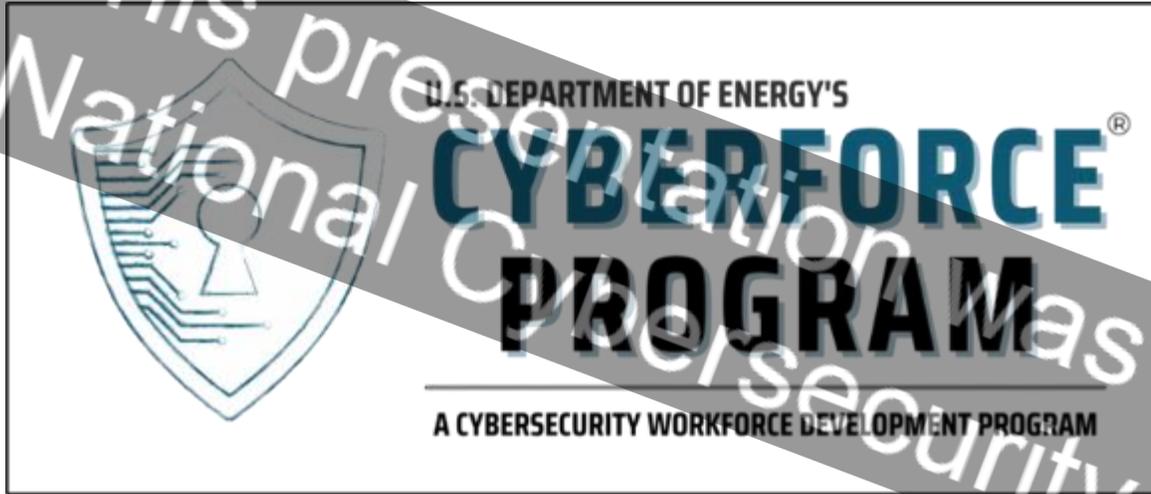
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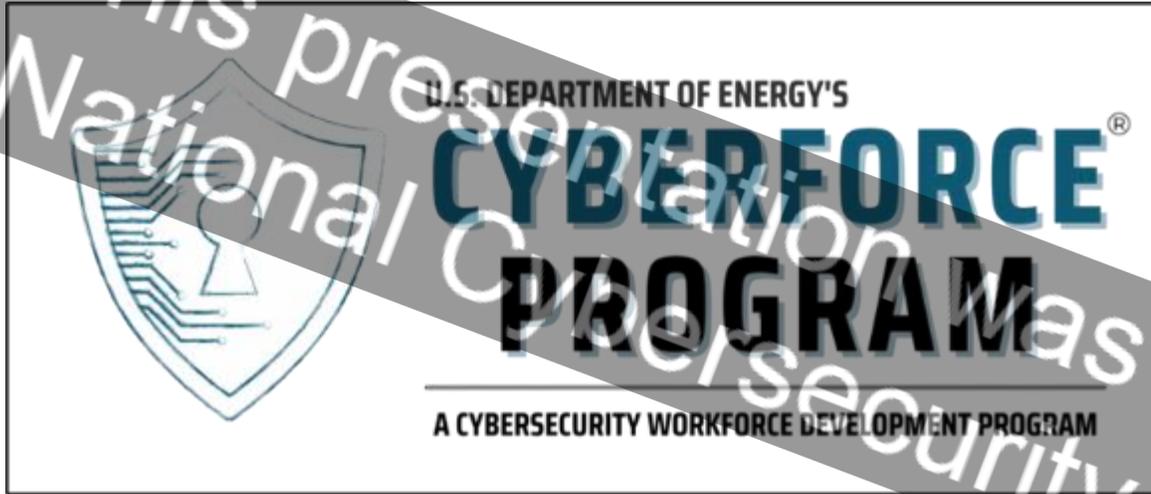
Training and Workforce Development



DOE's CyberForce® Program seeks to inspire and develop the next generation of skilled cyber defenders for the energy sector through hands-on competitions, webinars, and a virtual career fair.

<https://cyberforce.energy.gov>

Training and Workforce Development



WEBINAR SERIES

The Webinar Series was also added in 2021 to expand on our industry and academia partner engagement. These webinars will highlight upcoming news within the program as well as key topics of interest within cybersecurity.



WORKFORCE PORTAL

The Workforce Portal will be the CyberForce Program's main hub for all things program related. Participants will have a chance to better understand their skills, engage in regular communication, check job boards, and be the first to hear about upcoming events and trainings.



CYBERFORCE COMPETITION[®]

The CyberForce Competition is the original competition that started the program back in 2016. This is a defend/attack cyber-physical scenario.



CONQUER THE HILL SERIES

The Conquer the Hill competition series provides smaller individual based competitions that narrow in on specific skills for participants.

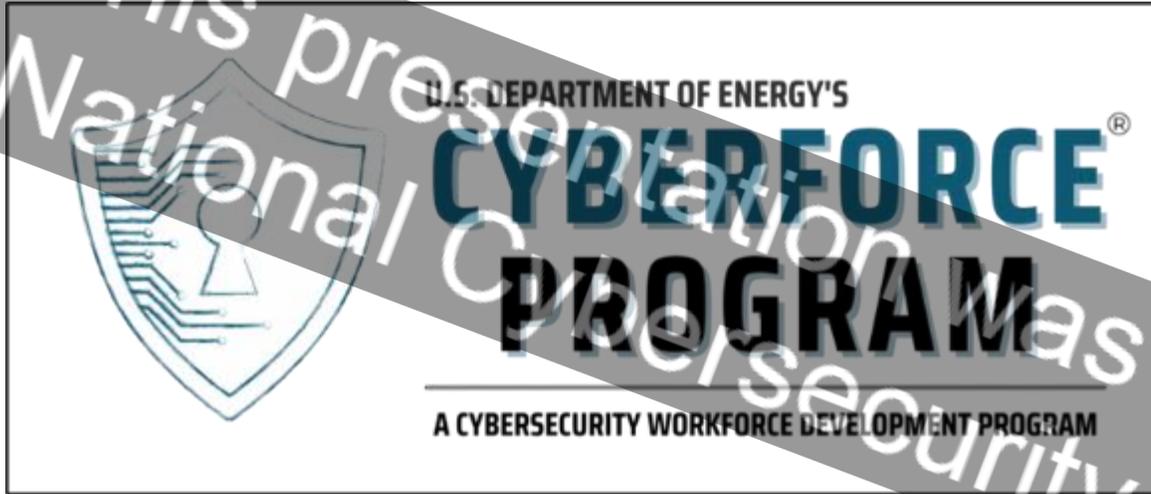


VIRTUAL CAREER FAIR

The CyberForce Program will be hosting a Virtual Career Fair for the participants of its collective programs on Wednesday, October 11, 2023.

<https://cyberforce.energy.gov>

Training and Workforce Development



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Registration is open to students through September 29th for the November 4, 2023, CyberForce Competition

<https://cyberforce.energy.gov>

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) Key Opportunities

The IIJA includes over \$62B for the U.S. Department of Energy to deliver a more equitable clean energy future.

Cybersecurity Workforce Provisions :

- Cybersecurity for electric utilities: **40124**
- Cybersecurity curriculum: **40125(b)**

[DOE BIL Homepage](#)
[BIL Programs at Department of Energy](#)
[NGA IIJA Implementation Resources](#)

40124: Rural and Municipal Utility Advanced Cybersecurity Grant and Technical Assistance (RMUC) Program

Funding:

\$250 million over 5 years (FY22-26) via grants, technical assistance, and cooperative agreements

Objectives:

1. Deploy cybersecurity technology, operational capability, or services that enhance the security posture of electric utilities through improvements in the ability to **protect** against, **detect**, **respond** to, or **recover** from a **cybersecurity threat**.
2. Increase the participation of eligible entities in cybersecurity **threat information sharing** programs.



RMUC Program Eligibility and Priorities

Eligibility:

- Rural electric cooperatives (~900)
- Municipal electric utilities (~2,000)
 - a utility owned by a political subdivision of a State
 - a utility owned by any agency, authority, corporation, or instrumentality of 1 or more political subdivisions of a State
- Not-for-profits in partnership with rural or municipal electric utilities (unknown number)
- Investor-owned electric utilities that sell < 4,000,000 MWh/year (~22-50)

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Priority Given to Eligible Entities:

- with limited cybersecurity resources;
- that own assets critical to the reliability of the bulk-power system (BPS); or,
- that own defense critical electric infrastructure (DCEI)

RMUC Eligibility and Priorities

*This presentation was given at the 2023
National Cybersecurity Education Colloquium*

RMUC Eligibility

Cooperative

Municipal

Investor-
Owned (IOU)

This presentation was given at the 2023 National Cybersecurity Education Colloquium

RMUC Eligibility

Cooperative

Municipal

IOU

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RMUC Priorities

Cooperative

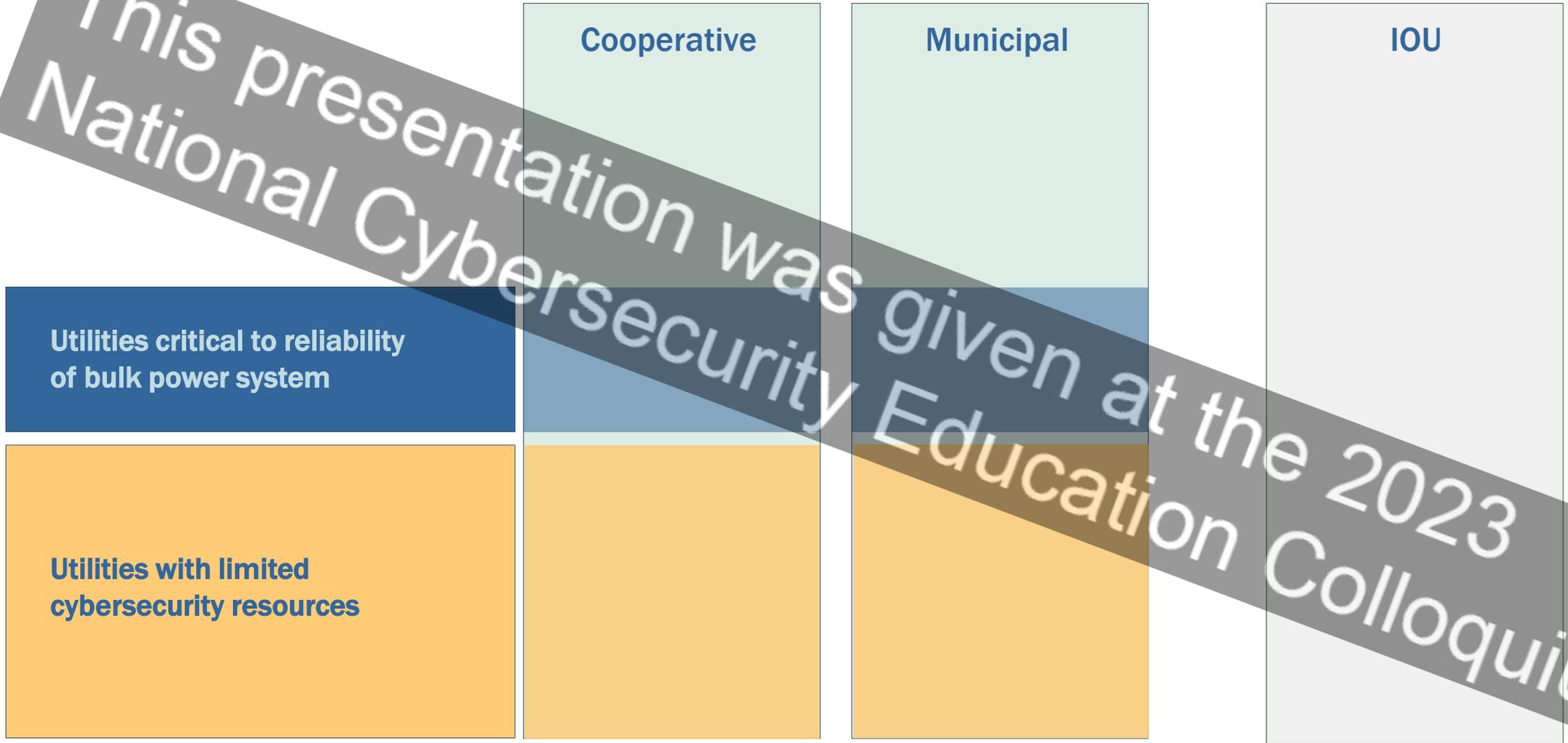
Municipal

IOU

Utilities with limited
cybersecurity resources

This presentation was given at the 2023
National Cybersecurity Education Colloquium

RMUC Priorities



RMUC Priorities

Own Defense Critical Electric Infrastructure

Cooperative

Municipal

IOU

Utilities critical to reliability of bulk power system

Utilities with limited cybersecurity resources

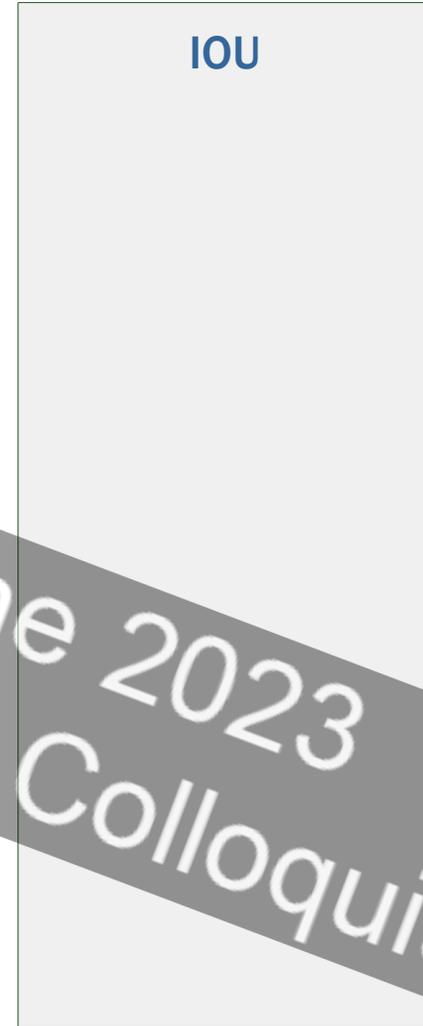
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RMUC Priorities

Serving Military Installations
Own Defense Critical Electric Infrastructure

Utilities critical to reliability
of bulk power system

Utilities with limited
cybersecurity resources



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RMUC Eligibility

Not-for-profit entity that is in a partnership with six (6) or more cooperative and/or municipal utilities.

Cooperative

Municipal

IOU

Serving Military Installations
Own Defense Critical Electric Infrastructure

Utilities critical to reliability
of bulk power system

Utilities with limited
cybersecurity resources

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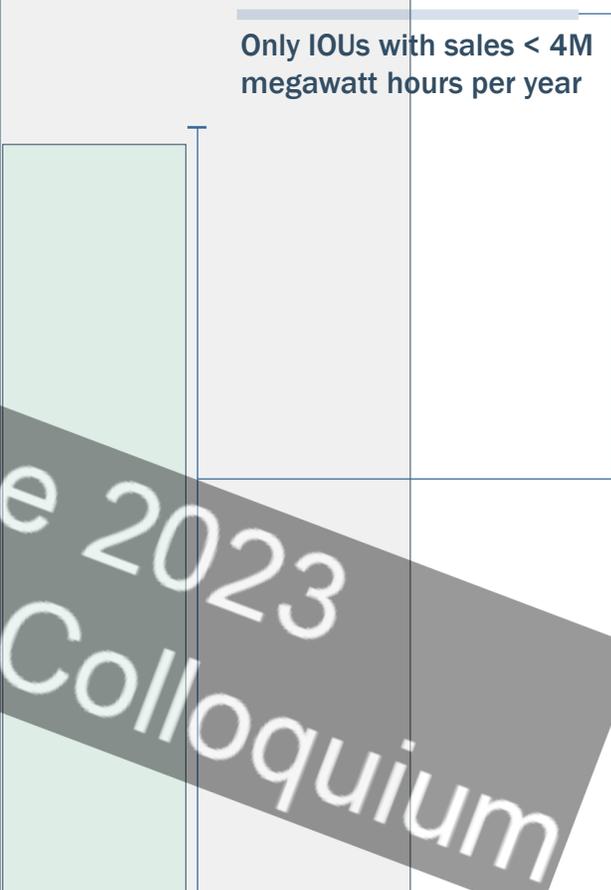
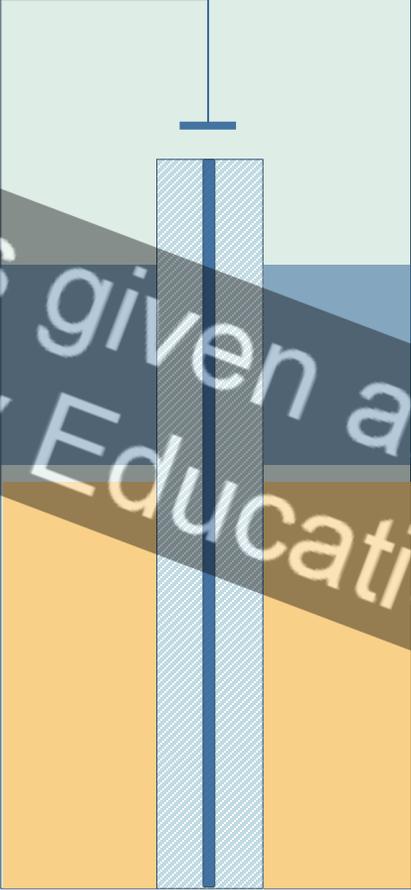
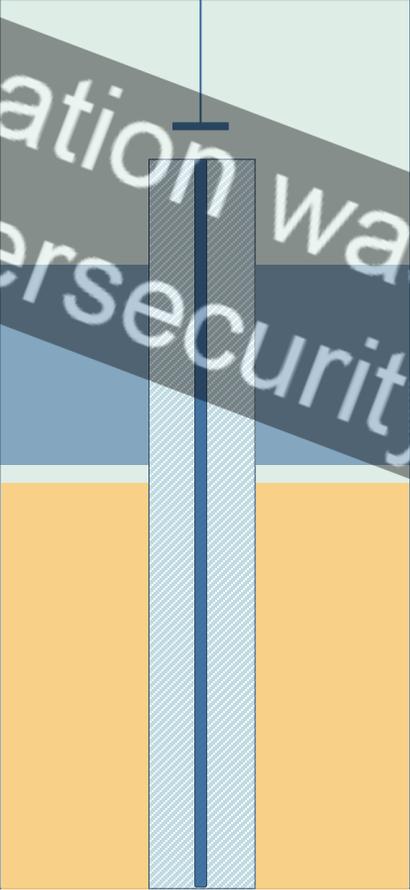
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Only IOUs with sales < 4M
megawatt hours per year



RMUC Priorities

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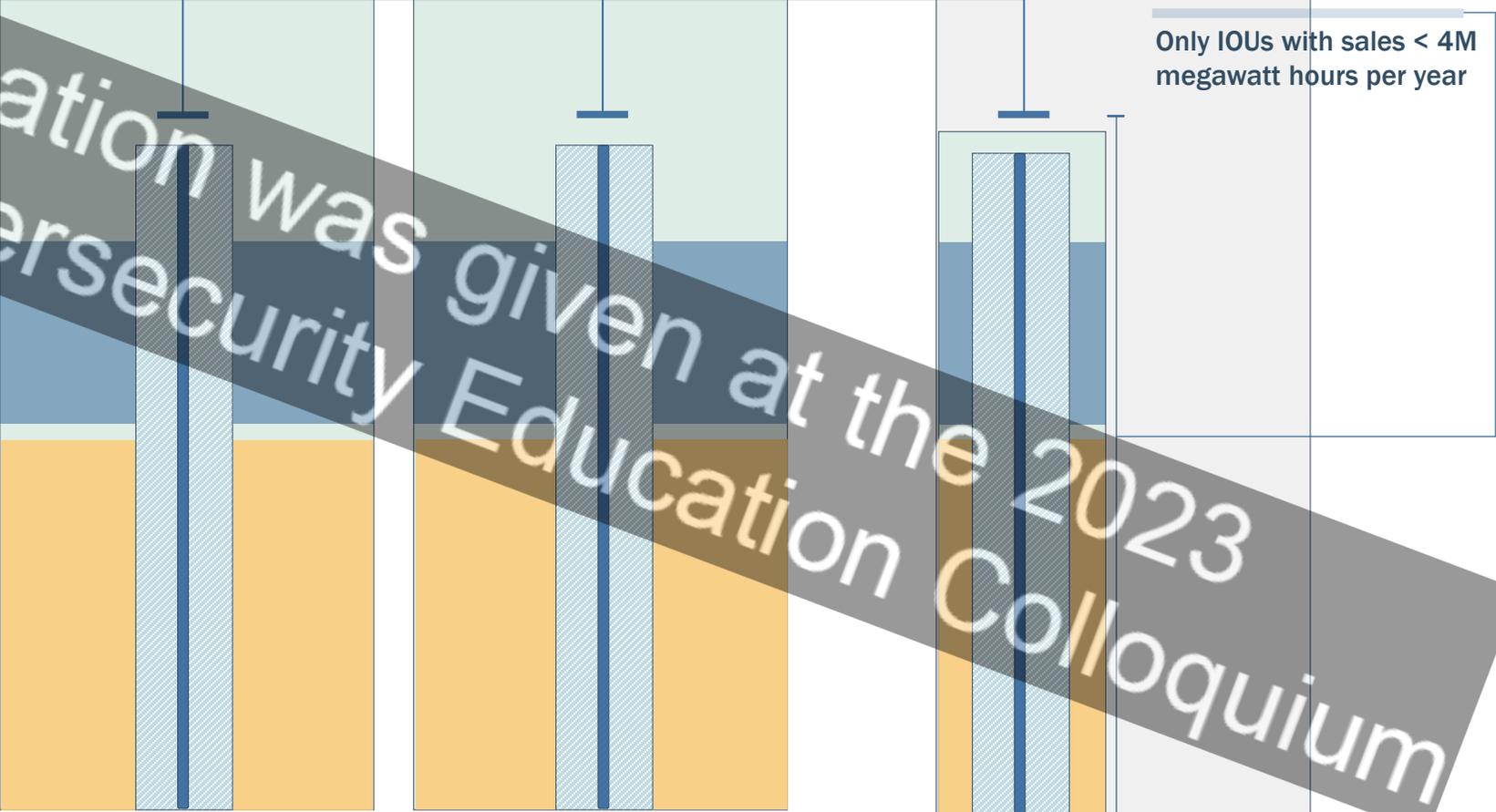
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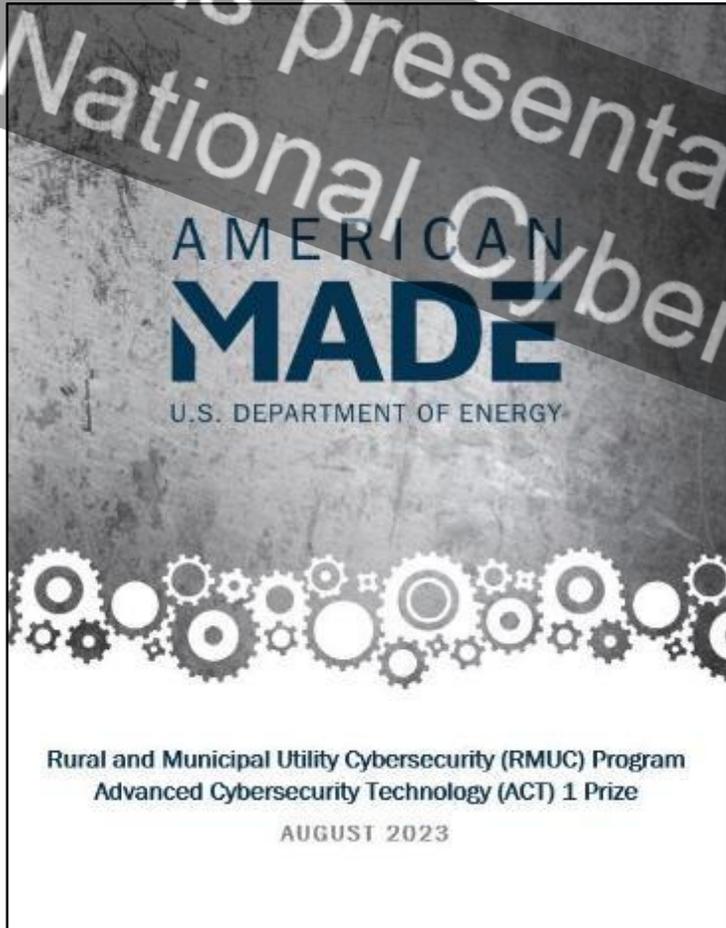
RMUC Program: Advanced Cybersecurity Technology (ACT) 1 Prize



Empowering utilities with limited cybersecurity resources to make critical investments in staff training, governance processes, and technologies to harden their systems against threats.

<https://www.herox.com/ACT1Prize>

ACT 1 Prize



- Minimal administrative burden.
- \$8.96 Million:
 - \$7.25 in cash awards
 - \$1.71 in technical assistance vouchers
- Up to 55 utilities will win an ACT 1 Prize
- Priority:
 - Utilities with limited cybersecurity resources
 - Utilities service military installations
- ACT 1 is the first in the ACT Prize Program series

ACT 1 Prize Structure

Three increasingly competitive phases, each phase concludes with a prize.

- 1. Commitment Phase** - Utilities prepare submission packages that describe their resources, need for improving their cybersecurity posture, and commitment to participating in the ACT 1 Prize.
- 2. Planning Phase** - Utilities work with technical assistance providers to complete system assessments, identify areas for training, understand potential risks and solutions, and draft a roadmap for implementation.
- 3. Implementation Phase** - Utilities work with technical assistance providers to make progress toward completing their implementation roadmap.

ACT 1 Prizes

Prize Phase	LIMITED CYBERSECURITY RESOURCES Track	MILITARY Track
Commitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• \$50,000• Up to 60 hours of TA• Up to 50 winners	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• \$50,000• Up to 120 hours of TA• Up to 5 winners

ACT 1 Prizes

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Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• \$50,000• Up to 60 hours of TA• Up to 25 winners	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• \$50,000• Up to 120 hours of TA• Up to 5 winners

ACT 1 Prizes

Prize Phase	LIMITED CYBERSECURITY RESOURCES Track	MILITARY Track
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Planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$50,000 • Up to 60 hours of TA • Up to 25 winners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$50,000 • Up to 120 hours of TA • Up to 5 winners
Implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$100,000 • Up to 25 winners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$100,000 • Up to 5 winners
Total potential cumulative award*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$200,000 • 120 hours of TA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$200,000 • 240 hours of TA

* If utility wins all three phases

ACT 1 Prize Timeline



Rural & Municipal Utility Cybersecurity Program
Advanced Cybersecurity Technology Prize

TIMELINE



PHASE

1 Commitment
 Describe need, goals, service territory, and demonstrate commitment

- Submissions Open: Aug. 30, 2023
- Submissions Close: Nov. 29, 2023

PHASE

2 Planning
 Identify risks, prioritize solutions, and draft roadmap

- Submissions Open: March 2024*
- Submissions Close: Aug. 2024*

Winners Announced & Awards Mar 2024*

- Up to 55 winners
- Prize: \$50,000 cash, 60 or 120 hours technical assistance (TA)

PHASE

3 Implementation
 Finalize and make progress on roadmap

- Submissions Open: Oct. 2024*
- Submissions Close: Jan. 2025*

Winners Announced & Awards Oct 2024*

- Up to 30 winners
- Prize: \$50,000 cash, 60 or 120 hours technical assistance (TA)

Winners Announced & Awards Mar 2025*

- Up to 30 winners
- Prize: \$100,000 cash

*anticipated

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RMUC Program ACT 1 Prize

Applications Due:
November 29, 2023



the 2023
Education Colloquium

<https://www.herox.com/ACT1Prize>

RMUC Program: ICS Cybersecurity Training

Industrial Control Systems Cybersecurity Training

- Tuesday-Thursday, October 31-November 2, 2023: Columbus, OH
- Tuesday-Thursday, November 28-30, 2023: Orlando, FL
- Tuesday-Thursday, December 5-7, 2023: Kansas City, MO
- Wednesday-Friday, January 17-19, 2024: San Diego, CA
- Tuesday-Thursday, January 23-25, 2024: Dallas, TX
- Tuesday-Thursday, April 23-25, 2024: Buffalo, NY

RMUC Program: ICS Cybersecurity Training

Advanced Cybersecurity Technology (ACT)

Funding Opportunity Announcement

This presentation was given at the 2023
National Cybersecurity Education Colloquium

RMUC Program

For more information follow the RMUC Program website:

[Rural and Municipal Utility Advanced Cybersecurity Grant and Technical Assistance \(RMUC\) Program | Department of Energy](#)

Or join the email list at

[**CESER.RMUC@hq.doe.gov**](mailto:CESER.RMUC@hq.doe.gov)

Section 40125(b) Cybersecurity for the Energy Sector Research, Development, and Demonstration Program

40125(b)

(1) (D) to develop workforce development curricula for energy sector-related cybersecurity

This presentation was given at the 2023 National Cybersecurity Education Colloquium

What problem(s) are we trying to solve?

- Not enough training?
- Not the right training?
 - Effective training methods? Delivery?
 - The right content? What does the market need?
- Limited access to training?
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- Recruitment issue
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 - Human resources infrastructure

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Pipeline

Where do energy asset owners and operators go to recruit cybersecurity subject matter experts that understand ICS/OT cybersecurity?

This presentation was given at the 2023 National Cybersecurity Education Colloquium

Closing the SA gap in KSAs

- Internship
- Engineering Co-op
- Legal Clinic
- Apprenticeship
- Medical Rotation
- Certification
- Boot Camp
- Competitions

This presentation was given at the 2023 National Cybersecurity Education Colloquium

Engineering Co-op Model: SOC

Norwich University Applied Research Institutes (NUARI) Security Operations Center

- Dr. Sharon Hamilton, Vice President of Strategic Partnerships at Norwich University
- Initial qualification training (IQT), mission qualification training (MQT), “sit crew” – work with the SOC team on missions, receiving alerts, investigating those alerts, determining whether things are false positives or not, and writing up reports.
- playbook for all staffing, onboarding, operations, technical evaluation/acquisition, and overall program evaluation
- Certification, 70 students
- Apprenticeship

Legal Clinic Model

Consortium of Cybersecurity Clinics

- International network of university-based cybersecurity clinics and allies working to advance cybersecurity education.
- “Cybersecurity clinics promote hands-on learning by matching students with real clients and giving them the work experience they need to land their first job in cybersecurity.”
(<https://cybersecurityclinics.org/blog/cyber-clinics-and-the-national-cybersecurity-workforce-strategy/>)
- Students provide *pro bono* essential cybersecurity services in their local communities.
(<https://cybersecurityclinics.org/>)
- Google committed \$20 M to support the creation and expansion of cybersecurity clinics at 20 higher education institutions across the U.S. (<https://blog.google/inside-google/message-ceo/commitment-cybersecurity-workforce/>)

Apprenticeship Model

Building Apprenticeship Systems in Cybersecurity (BASIC) project

- Funded by the Closing the Skill Gap grant by the Department of Labor.
- EnergySec (<https://www.energysec.org/basic/>)

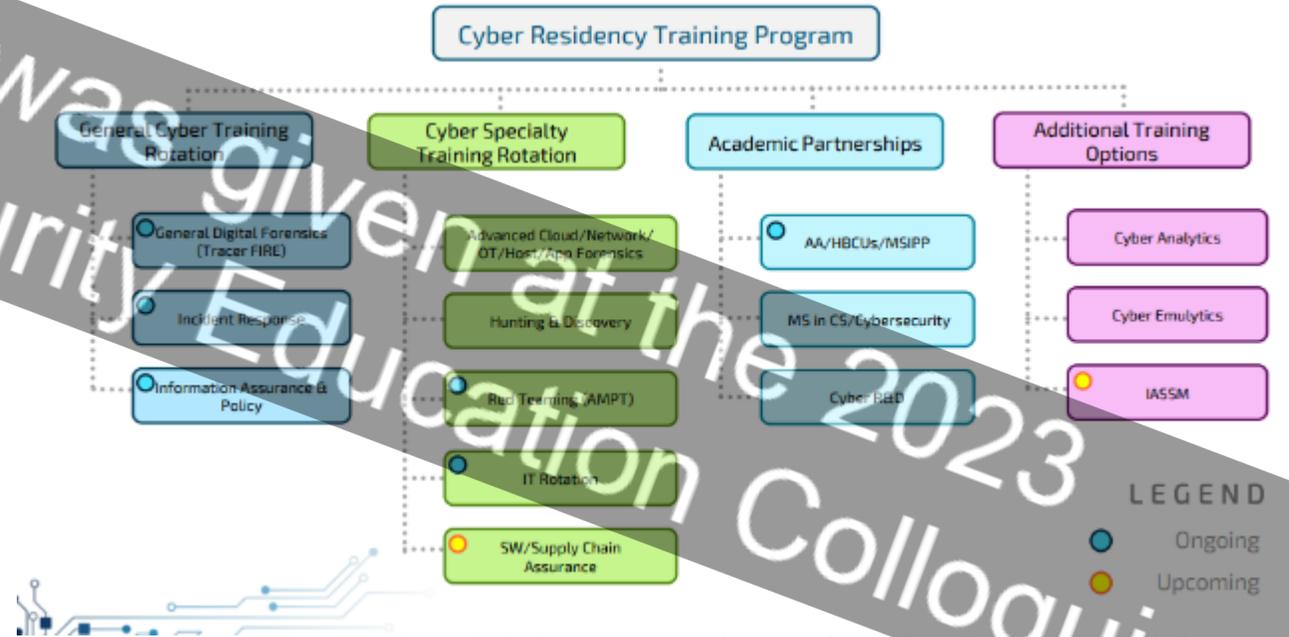
Cybersecurity & Industrial Infrastructure Security Apprenticeship Program (CIISAp)

- Announced December 2021
- The founding members of CIISAp:
 - Capitol Technology University
 - ICS Village, Inc.
 - Idaho State University (ISU)
 - MISI Academy
 - Regional Economic Development for Eastern Idaho (REDI)
 - SANS Institute
 - Siemens Energy

Medical Rotation Model

Sandia Cyber Residency Rotational Program

Attract, retain, and develop Sandia cybersecurity practitioners and researchers with the necessary knowledge and skills for defending and securing Sandia and the nation from emerging and evolving cybersecurity threats.

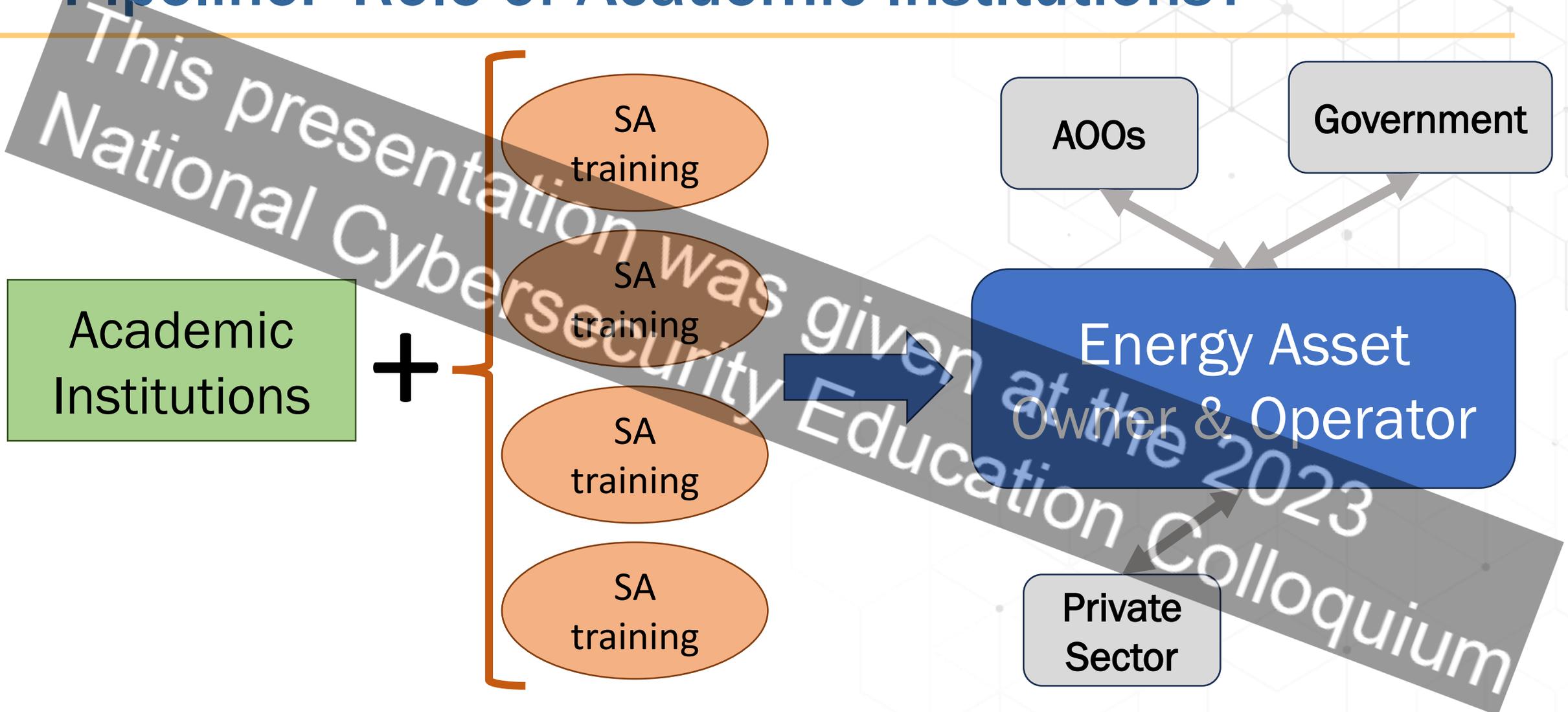


Medical Rotation Model

New Jersey Cybersecurity and Communications Integration Cell (NJCCIC)

- Michael Geraghty, NJ Chief Information Security Officer (CISO) and Director of NJCCIC
- A component organization within the New Jersey Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness that is a combined cyber fusion and security operations center.

Pipeline: Role of Academic Institutions?



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Who is included in the cybersecurity workforce?

- Information technology cybersecurity
- ICS/OT cybersecurity
- Engineering
- Operations

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~ 3,000 Electric Cooperative & Municipal Utilities

- Limited economic and cybersecurity resources
- Institutional challenges
- Subject matter experts unwilling to relocate

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Who is included in the cybersecurity workforce?

- Information technology cybersecurity
- ICS/OT cybersecurity
- Engineering
- Operations
- Legal
- Human Resources
- Procurement
- Finance

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- Finance
- CEO, General Manager, Senior Leadership Team
- Board of Directors, elected officials

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- Operations
- Legal
- Human Resources
- Procurement
- Finance
- CEO, General Manager, Senior Leadership Team
- Board of Directors, elected officials
- Renewable energy
- IoT and IIoT
- Engineering
- Systems design
- Product manufacturing
- Software
- Digital hardware and firmware
- Energy markets
- Etc., etc.

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Challenges in hiring

- Occupational job codes for ICS/OT (no National Center for Education Statistics Classification of Instructional Program (CIP) codes, or DOL O*NET codes)
- Unclear job roles and responsibilities in ICS/OT cybersecurity
- Historical cultural expectations
 - Automated resume reviews
 - Length of employment
 - Requirements for certifications/degrees
 - Expecting unicorns

BLUF

Cybersecurity Workforce Strategy for CESER

Current premise:

Energy asset owners and operators need the resources and staff with the knowledge, skills, and abilities to successfully adapt and respond to a constantly changing cybersecurity threat landscape.

Thursday at 10:15: Is it time for a professional degree in cybersecurity?

Lifelong Learning

This presentation was given at the 2023
National Cybersecurity Education Colloquium

Lifelong Learning

Imposture syndrome is part of the job

This presentation was given at the 2023 National Cybersecurity Education Colloquium

Lifelong Learning

Imposture syndrome is part of the job

Diversity of thought is essential

This presentation was given at the 2023 National Cybersecurity Education Colloquium

We're Hiring!

Upcoming Opportunities

- Cyber Security Specialists
- R&D Technology Managers
- Regional Preparedness and Response Experts
- Energy Policy Experts
- Risk Analysts
- Supervisory Program Managers
- Management and Program Analysts
- Engineers
- Budget and Finance Analysts
- Operations Support Resource Managers
- External Affairs Specialists

Learn more and access postings at:

energy.gov/ceser/join-our-team

For more information reach out to CESER-HC@hq.doe.gov

CESER Contact Information



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