Critical Infrastructure Partnership Advisory Council

2018 Critical Infrastructure Summit

Public Comments Appendix

The following members of the public registered in advance to present oral comments to the CIPAC during the 2018 Critical Infrastructure Summit – Critical Infrastructure Partnership Advisory Council meeting held on March 1, 2018 at the Hilton Crystal City, Arlington, VA. Their comments are transcribed below as an appendix to the meeting summary found at www.dhs.gov/cipac. Written comments submitted per the *Notice of Critical Infrastructure Partnership Advisory Council Critical (CIPAC) Infrastructure Summit*, 83 Fed. Reg. 29 (February 12, 2018) can be found at www.regulations.gov by searching for docket number DHS-2018-0004.

Public Comment Period Oral Statements for the CIPAC Record

Dana Goward, Resilient Navigation and Timing Foundation

I'm Dana Goward from the Resilient Navigation and Timing Association. This morning the Secretary said she was looking forward to hearing your recommendations for the precious few things that you should be focusing on this year so I'm here to encourage you to include in those recommendations a recommendation to work on a little known cyber problem that DHS officials have called a single point of failure for critical infrastructure. In 2014, in the mid-Atlantic, a container port was idled for 7 hours because someone brought a GPS jammer onto the facility. In 2015, a wireless provider in Kansas was taken off the air for two hours because someone drove through with the GPS jammer and took a 150 mile wide area offline. In 2016, a small timing error in the GPS constellation caused wireless providers, cell phone providers, first responders, digital broadcast folks across the globe to experience problems with their systems: faults and malfunctions. In 2017, people transmitting false GPS signals caused all kinds of problems with cell phones, caused bad time stamps and bad position information to go into databases. So this is really a very significant cyber problem that is very little recognized. The Bush administration studied this issue as did the Obama administration. Both administrations resolved and publicly announced that they would build or establish a complimentary back-up system for GPS to make it essentially bullet proof. Both failed to act. So not surprisingly, the current administration, the current DHS, is also studying this. And I would urge you to urge them on in their effort and to actually carry through with the solution that they come up with. It is a very significant problem and remains an accelerating single point of failure for critical infrastructure. Thank you.

Mary Lasky, InfraGard

I'm Mary Lasky and I'm here today as part of InfraGard, which is a public-private partnership with the FBI and has about 50,000 members across the United States and chapters in every state, and I am the chair of a special interest group that is looking at the critical infrastructure. And so in your planning think about what happens with the grid because all of the critical infrastructures are so dependent on it. If the grid were to go down because of a cyber-attack, by a solar storm, by electromagnetic pulses even in a hand-held coordinated or by a high-altitude attack, which North Korea has threatened, and it could be a physical attack that is coordinated. And so just remember these kind of critical things that all of the other critical infrastructures are dependent on. And as we heard from Paul Stockton about big scenarios to concentrate on, this is certainly one of them with the cross sector needs of water, wastewater, and communications, and financial as some of the really critical ones. Thank you.

John Organek, Electric Infrastructure Security Council

My name is John Organek and I'm with the Electric Infrastructure Security Council, which is a non-profit. We're focused primarily on the cross-sector interdependencies and I think you heard quite a bit in the afternoon session about how critical electricity would be to not only preserving lives but also maintaining society itself. I work in the

water sector. I think you heard from Kevin Moreland. I've been working with him quite a bit. And I want to re-emphasize the importance of water and wastewater, and I also work on the system of systems approach which we heard this afternoon as far as modeling. The idea that bringing everybody together in better coordination I think is very important. Sometimes we get very myopic in what we're looking at in terms of a siloed type of approach, and I just want to reemphasize that I think a lot of the argument was taken away this afternoon.

Charles Job, National Ground Water Association

I'm Charles Job with the National Groundwater Association, and I wanted to focus on small systems in rural areas. Floodwaters that are contaminated can affect wells that are relied on by small water systems and household wells. 42% of the population of the United States gets its water from ground water. 43% of the irrigation water supply is from ground water. There are 34,000 very small water systems in the United States many of which were affected by these major storms, Maria going back to Matthew, during the past year. We estimated that over 5% of the household wells in the United States were affected by those four storms from Matthew to through Maria. I just would like to urge that the CIPAC consider in its deliberations, the recovery in rural areas and in small water systems and small communities. Thank you.