

Protecting the Energy Grid for Customers

The Electric Power Industry's Leadership on Energy Grid Security and Reliability

The 3 Key Facts You Need

- 1** The electric power sector often is described as the most critical of the critical infrastructure sectors. The men and women of the electric power industry work every day to improve the security, reliability, and resiliency of the energy grid to protect it from all evolving threats and to deliver the energy customers need.
- 2** Our security strategies constantly evolve and are closely coordinated with the federal government through a partnership called the Electricity Subsector Coordinating Council (ESCC). By working together, industry and government greatly enhance our nation's ability to defend and protect against cyber and physical security threats and meet our customers' expectations.
- 3** While the industry already engages in information-sharing and has mandatory and enforceable reliability and security regulations in place, taking steps to improve the sharing of actionable security information between the government and industry is vital to protecting the energy grid.

ESCC Coordinating Responsibilities

The ESCC serves as the principal liaison between the federal government and the electric power sector to coordinate efforts to prepare for, and respond to, national-level disasters or threats to critical infrastructure.

Electricity Subsector Coordinating Council Stakeholders



GOVERNMENT

- Federal Agencies
- Regulators
- Power Marketing Administrations
- Law Enforcement
- State, Local, Tribal, & Territorial
- Canadian Agencies & Provinces



INDUSTRY

- Electric Companies
- Trade Associations
- ISOs & RTOs
- NERC
- E-ISAC
- Canadian Electric Companies



EXTERNAL GROUPS

- Other Critical Sectors
- Vendors
- Critical Customers
- Media

COORDINATION

- Security to support restoration
- Media and public affairs messaging
- Logistical support and staging

RESOURCE ALLOCATION

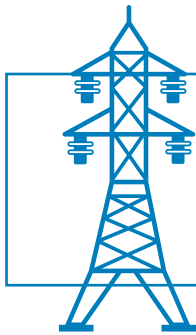
- Equipment, hardware, and materials
- Human resources and expertise

CONFLICT RESOLUTION

- Investigation versus restoration
- Prioritization of recovery
- Distribution of limited resources

The ESCC Is Focused On

- Planning and exercising coordinated responses to attacks or major disruptions to the energy grid.
- Ensuring information about threats is communicated quickly between government and industry.
- Deploying government technologies on electric company systems that improve situational awareness of threats to the energy grid.
- Developing strong partnerships with other critical infrastructure sectors (communications, transportation, financial services, water, and downstream natural gas) to plan for and respond to major incidents and share information more effectively.
- Partnering with the Electric Power Research Institute and the federal government to better understand the threats posed by electromagnetic pulses.
- Maintaining the industry-wide cyber mutual assistance program in coordination with federal agency partners.
- Strengthening and securing the supply chain.
- Expanding equipment sharing programs and developing transformer transportation processes and procedures with the federal government, railroads, and heavy hauler and rigging industries.



According to projections, electric companies invested **\$52.8 billion** in 2016 to enhance the energy grid and to further support our grid security efforts.

Our Policy Platform

To ensure that electric companies can deliver the energy future that customers want and expect, it is critical that public policies help to strengthen the energy grid's resilience against cyber and physical security attacks. Some of the key building blocks of a more dynamic, more resilient, and more secure energy grid are:

- Ensuring that policymakers, stakeholders, and customers understand the value of the energy grid.
- Reinforcing industry efforts to strengthen grid security defenses by expanding and building upon our partnership with the federal government.
- Allowing electric companies to plan, build, and operate the energy grid as a platform to integrate a diverse set of emerging technologies.
- Supporting public policies that promote investment in new grid technologies while balancing security risk, operational efficiency, and customer costs.
- Encouraging expanded partnerships between the electric power industry and leading technology companies to bring tomorrow's technologies to customers today.
- Supporting federal research and development on grid security technologies and expediting technology transfer to the private sector.

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EEL is the association that represents all U.S. investor-owned electric companies. Our members provide electricity for 220 million Americans, and operate in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. As a whole, the electric power industry supports more than 7 million jobs in communities across the United States. EEL has dozens of international electric companies as International Members, and hundreds of industry suppliers and related organizations as Associate Members.