Critical Infrastructure

Hoosiers live in a world with services that allow citizens to comfortably and easily go about their daily lives. Electricity, roads, bridges, communications networks and other essential services make up an important part of what's known as Indiana's "critical infrastructure."

Securing Indiana's infrastructure is a priority that requires planning and coordination across the whole community.

Critical Infrastructure — 16 Sectors

In 1996, the federal government defined eight sectors as critical: telecommunications, electric power systems, oil and gas storage and transportation, banking and finance, transportation, water supply systems, emergency services, and continuity of government. Later, other sectors were added or reorganized to form 16 critical sectors.

The 16 sectors of critical infrastructure include:

- **Chemical** – This sector is comprised of five main segments: basic, specialty, agricultural, pharmaceutical and consumer product chemicals.
- **Commercial Facilities** – This sector includes a diverse range of sites that draw large crowds of people for shopping, business, entertainment or lodging. It includes eight subsectors: entertainment and media, gaming, lodging, outdoor events, public assembly, real estate, retail and sports leagues.
- **Communications** – Over the last 25 years, the sector has evolved from predominantly a provider of voice services into a diverse industry using terrestrial, satellite and wireless transmission systems.
- **Critical Manufacturing** – Four industries serve as the core of ciritical manufacturing, including primary metal; machinery; electrical equipment, appliance and component; and transportation equipment. Products made by the industries are essential to other sectors.
- **Dams** – Critical water retention and control services are the primary function of dams. However, other benefits may also include hydroelectric power generation, municipal and industrial water supplies, agricultural irrigation, sediment and flood control, river navigation for inland bulk shipping, industrial waste management and recreation.
- **Defense Industrial Base** – This sector enables research and development, as well as design, production, delivery and maintenance of military weapons systems, subsystems, and components or parts, to meet U.S. military requirements. Both domestic and international entities are included within this sector.
- **Emergency Services** – As a system of prevention, preparedness, response and recovery elements, this sector represents the first line of defense and primary protector. The five disciplines of law enforcement, fire and emergency services, emergency management, emergency medical services and public works are included, as well as other specialized capabilities such as hazardous materials and tactical operations.
- **Energy** – The energy infrastructure is divided into three interrelated segments, including: electricity, petroleum and natural gas. The reliance of virtually all industries on electric power and fuels means that all sectors have some dependence on the energy sector.
- **Financial Services** – Financial services include the largest institutions to the smallest community banks and credit unions. Also encompassed within this sector are investment organizations, insurers and credit organizations.

Leadership for a Safe and Secure Indiana

- **Food and Agriculture** – Composed of farms and restaurants, as well as food manufacturing, processing and storage facilities, this sector is primarily under private ownership. This sector accounts for a significant portion of Indiana and the nation's economic activity.
- **Government Facilities** – These facilities include general-use office buildings and special -use military installations, embassies, courthouses, national laboratories and structures that may house critical equipment, systems, networks and functions. In addition to physical structures, the sector includes cyber elements and individuals.
- **Healthcare and Public Health** – Overwhelmingly comprised of private entities, collaboration and communication has been vital to this sector's ability to protect from hazards such as infectious disease outbreaks.
- **Information Technology** – Businesses, governments, academia, private citizens and commerce are increasingly dependent on the hardware, software and services provided by this sector, as well as the Internet. The complex and dynamic nature of information technology makes identifying threats and assessing vulnerabilities difficultly, requiring collaborative and creative approaches.
- **Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste** – although Indiana does not currently have any nuclear reactor facilities in the state, officials work closely with surrounding states to establish plans and ensure safety.
- **Transportation Systems** – This system consists of seven key subsectors, which include aviation, highway infrastructure, maritime transportation system, mass transit and passenger rail, pipeline systems, postal and shipping and freight rail.
- **Water and Wastewater Systems** – These systems provide both municipal drinking water and sewer services to users across Indiana. Additionally, they support critical services such as firefighting and hospitals. If damaged, other dependent and interdependent sectors, such as Energy, Food and Agriculture and Transportation Systems, would suffer negative impacts.

Protecting Critical Infrastructure

Although government and private partnerships are in place to help protect infrastructure at the state and national levels, there are steps citizens can take to help safeguard their communities.

- Remain vigilant to suspicious activity, and report any concerns to local law enforcement. Some examples of suspicious activity include:
  - Individuals or actions which are out of place (e.g. improperly dressed for the weather).
  - Unusual or prolonged interest in security measures, entry/exit points or unattended vehicles.
  - Purposely placing objects in sensitive or vulnerable areas to observe security response.
  - Acting nervous or suspicious, possibly mumbling to themselves to sweating heavily.
- Use cybersecurity principles, such as strong passwords and encryption, to protect accounts that could be used to access a system.
- Practice regular safety techniques at home and while in public, which can help eliminate security holes related to customer wellbeing.