

CIPWG Update

SPP RTO Compliance Forum
October 9, 2013



Overview

- What is CIPWG?
- CIPWG Mission
- History of CIPWG
- CIPWG Meetings
- Security vs. Compliance
- The Threats are Real
- What's Coming ...



What Is CIPWG?

- The Critical Infrastructure Protection Working Group
 - Reports to Markets & Operations Policy Committee (MOPC)
- Not a full-representation WG, but open to any asset-owning SPP Member
 - Membership currently 15 Member Companies
 - Room for plenty more

CIPWG Mission

- Provides a group of security SMEs to advise SPP Board, MOPC, or any other group, as needed
- Provides a forum for discussion of security issues
- Primary interface with NERC CIPC
- Provide recommendations for security of SPP Member-facing resources
- Coordinate responses to NERC & FERC filings

CIPWG History

- CIPWG was established by MOPC in 2004 in response to post 9/11 security concerns
- A recognition that the electric industry is THE critical infrastructure
 - The other 15 CI sectors can't function without us
- Established to provide a forum for SPP Members to discuss security issues and share best practices in protecting critical infrastructure

CIPWG History

- All SPP Members were invited to send cyber security, physical security, and/or operations staff to discuss secure operation of the grid
- Larry Dolci of KCP&L was first chair
- Included closed, Members-only, pens-down session from the outset

CIPWG Meetings

- CIPWG meets quarterly, generally at a Member Company site
- Usually include current threat briefings from local DHS and FBI representatives
- Also discuss emerging CIP compliance or other regulatory issues
- A “support group” for CIP Compliance Managers



Compliance vs. Security

- CIPWG was established to protect critical infrastructure
- As the NERC CIP standards came along, the membership of the group gradually changed from security staff to compliance staff
- CIPWG began including discussion of CIP compliance (and never-ending RE-interpretation of standards)

Compliance vs. Security (cont.)

- While compliance discussions take on a larger role, CIPWVG is NOT a compliance working group
- Our primary mission remains the protection of Critical Infrastructure, rather than CIP Compliance
 - There is a BIG distinction
 - Our focus must remain on operation and protection of the grid under the constant threat of attack

Threats are Real

- Arkansas has experienced three acts of transmission line sabotage in the last six weeks
- Information has been shared with CIPWG as it has become available to raise awareness
- All entities much watch for trends



Incident #1



FALLEN POWER LINE SHUTS DOWN HWY. 321

91° 6:34

THV 11

TERROR TRAINING

BRADLEY MANNING SENTENCING

FT. HOOD SHOOTINGS

Incident #2



Incident #3



The Threats are Real (cont)

- The cyber threat is as real as the physical threat
 - Asymmetrical (unbalanced) threat
- Nation states that don't like the US very much are interested in or already have cyber warfare skills
- Asset owners must stay vigilant against these threats, as well



CIPWG Needs You!

- Build relationships and trust to support sharing of sensitive information
- Keep SPP Membership abreast of emerging threats and trends
- Work together to protect our critical infrastructure assets



WE WANT YOU!

What's Coming ...

- CIPWG hopes to “reclaim” the CIP Workshop
 - As far as the protection of Critical Infrastructure goes
- Regional participation in NERC GridEx II
 - SPP Members play together
- Continued information sharing
- Continued therapy sessions



Questions?

