The Intersection of State Energy Offices and Emergency Management

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It wasn’t raining when Noah built the Ark.
Universal Truths for Preparedness

1. Planning is a priority; however, it must be more inclusive of other thought leaders and must consider interdependencies.

2. Most plans or preparedness activities don’t address surge or duration requirements for a black sky event.

3. Knowledge sharing enhances resilience.

4. Outreach/relationship-building is critical before an emergency strikes.
Integrated & Holistic Energy Assurance Planning

• Partner-based, preserves operational coordination
  • State utility commissions, emergency management, electric/gas utilities, refineries, state and federal agencies

• Plan, Train & Exercise TOGETHER
Integrated & Holistic Energy Assurance Planning

• Align planning efforts with ESF #12 documents, other CIKR priorities and look at best practices
  • Identify cross-sector interdependencies
  • Identify 2\textsuperscript{nd} and 3\textsuperscript{rd} order effects of energy losses
  • Understand management decision processes, responsibilities & authorities
Develop outreach & education strategies to build & support your network

• Establish the value of your efforts for different audiences
  • Communicate the “so-what”
  • Obtain buy-in from the top
  • Prioritize information, then identify who will most benefit
  • Demystify, declutter & unpack the headlines of the day

• Create a repeatable, scalable energy education platform
  • Identify SMEs
  • Ensure flexibility among different audiences from planners to policymakers
Develop outreach & education strategies to build & support your network

• It Takes a Village!
  • You can’t be everything to everyone…**be a force multiplier**
  • Get up from your desk and build your bench
  • Because of turnover across energy offices and emergency management, you must outreach early and often
Establish and Maintain Situational Awareness

• Know what’s in your backyard
• Maintain visibility and communications with asset owners/operators
• Turn that information into actionable intelligence
  • Understand how RTOs/utilities restore the system after gray AND black sky events
  • Reach out and partner with federal counterparts at DOE/DHS before an event/incident
  • Share information/intelligence with people who need to know; scale it for different groups
Discuss Prioritization of Key Facilities

• Locals and states play a key role in suggesting restoration priorities on distribution systems.
  • For example: Hospitals, public safety facilities, critical communication hubs and mass care/shelter locations.

• Each utility has specific priorities and plans...but engaging them together with emergency management officials creates an effective, intelligent platform to foster informed decision-making.
Resilience begins with robust planning and a culture of ongoing collaboration

What We Know…

- Existing energy preparedness is largely based on outage restoration without significant system damage.
- Depending on incident severity, there may be significant damage...and it may not be immediately visible.
- There will be corresponding outages on other critical infrastructure facilities/resources dependent on electricity.
Going Forward…

We Can…

• Provide subject-matter expertise and support to those planning for and coordinating response and recovery activities.

• Cultivate partnerships to ensure understanding of dependencies and responses.

• Collaborate and partner on planning, training and exercises (small and large-scale, state, regional and national).
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