



MEMORANDUM

EUGENE WATER & ELECTRIC BOARD

Rely on us.

TO: Commissioners Schlossberg, Brown, Carlson, Barofsky and McRae
FROM: Rod Price, Chief Operations Officer; Karen Kelley, Water Division Manager
DATE: February 19, 2021
SUBJECT: Americas Water Infrastructure Act - Emergency Response Plan
OBJECTIVE: Information Only

Issue

America's Water Infrastructure Act of 2018 (AWIA) required all community water systems serving populations greater than 3,300 persons to conduct an all-hazards Risk and Resilience Assessment and develop or update an Emergency Response Plan. EWEB certified completion of the Risk and Resilience Assessment (RRA) on March 30th, 2020, and the Emergency Response Plan (ERP) on September 29th, 2020; these documents are for official use only and exempt from public disclosure as defined under Oregon Law Statutes (ORS) 192.345 and 192.355.

Background

AWIA required all community water systems, serving populations greater than 100,000 persons, to include the following criteria in their RRA:

- Resilience of water infrastructure system components,
- SCADA/cyber security (of automated systems),
- Monitoring practices,
- The financial infrastructure,
- Use, storage, or handling of various chemicals by the system,
- The operation and maintenance of the system, and
- Evaluation of capital and operational needs for risk and resilience management (optional).

In response to the findings in the RRA, AWIA required all community water systems to include the following criteria in their ERP:

- Strategies and resources to improve the resilience of the system, including the physical security and cybersecurity of the system.
- Plans and procedures that can be implemented, and identification of equipment that can be utilized, in the event of a malevolent act or natural hazard that threatens the ability of the community water system to deliver safe drinking water.
- Actions, procedures, and equipment which can obviate or significantly lessen the impact of a malevolent act or natural hazard on the public health and the safety and supply of drinking water provided to communities and individuals, including the development of alternative source water options, relocation of water intakes, and construction of flood protection barriers.
- Strategies that can be used to aid in the detection of malevolent acts or natural hazards that threaten the security or resilience of the system.

EWEB certified completion of the RRA and the ERP, to the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and is now in the process of planning and implementing mitigation measures identified by the RRA and enhancing the ERP.

Discussion

EWEB retained Carollo Engineering to complete the ERP updates as required by AWIA and work with EWEB to enhance the ERP to the best in industry. As part of the ERP enhancement, the Carollo Team is working collaboratively with EWEB to comprehensively revise EWEB's ERP, beyond the mandated requirements of AWIA, in coordination with EWEB's resiliency initiatives. As part of the ERP enhancement process the following work has been completed:

- Numerous teleconference workshops with the Carollo team to review progress.
- Preparation of a project improvement implementation plan for the RRA mitigations measures. These projects will be incorporated in future Water CIPs and operational work plans.
- A review of best in industry ERP documents to serve as a baseline for the organizational structure of EWEB's enhanced ERP.
- Development of a useful and actionable ERP with the following improved attachments:
 - Risk Communications Plan
 - Public Notice and Press Release Templates
 - Pandemic Response Plan (Developed by EWEB)
 - Emergency Response Standard Operating Procedures
 - ICS Tools, Contact Lists and Equipment Inventory
 - Emergency Water Supply Plan (Developed by EWEB)

EWEB staff and consultants are reviewing final drafts and will be completing the enhanced Emergency Response Plan in April 2021.

As part of the work for the RRA, a cyber security assessment was completed. This was timely considering the recent cyber security attack on a water treatment facility in Oldsmar, Florida. EWEB's cyber security assessment found EWEB's water system can benefit from cyber security practices used in EWEB's electric utility division. While we continue to strive to improve our system security, it is worth noting that the problems identified in the Oldsmar Florida case do not exist at EWEB. EWEB meets all the recommendations from the Federal Bureau of Investigation that came from the Oldsmar investigation thus far. In addition, a team from EWEB involving Cyber, Water Operations, Enterprise Risk, Physical Security, Information Systems, and Communications are proactively developing public notice talking points based on lessons learned from the attack on Oldsmar's water supply.

Recommendation/Requested Board Action

None. This is an information only item. If the Board has any questions please contact Karen Kelley, Water Division Manager at 541-685-7153 or karen.kelley@eweb.org.