



Global Threats. Local Response.

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OFFICE OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND PREPAREDNESS

Association of Environmental Authorities/ Spring Utility Management Conference

Dan Engelhardt | Director of Preparedness

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NJ OHSP Mission

- State agency leading and coordinating Homeland Security efforts in NJ
- Counterterrorism
- Counterintelligence
- NJCCIC / Cyber Security
- Preparedness

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NJ OHSP Preparedness Division

- Statewide Risk Analysis
- Infrastructure Security
- Private Sector / NJ Shield
- Grant Management
- Training / Exercise



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New Jersey Critical Infrastructure Community

- “Team of Teams”
- Name of the game = COLLABORATION
- Federal, state, county, local partnerships
- Private Sector = CRITICAL
- Infrastructure Advisory Group / Private Sector Advisory Group / NJ SHIELD



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Current Threats

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NJ OHSP

2023 Threat Assessment

- Extremism
- High
 - Homegrown Violent Extremists (HVEs)
 - White Racially Motivated Extremists (WRMEs)
- Moderate
 - Anti-government Extremists
 - Militia Extremists
- Low
 - Al-Qa'ida and Affiliates
 - Environmental Extremists

2023 ASSESSED THREAT LEVEL	
High	Homegrown Violent Extremists
	White Racially Motivated Extremists
Moderate	Abortion-Related Extremists
	Anarchist Extremists
	Anti-Government Extremists
	Black Racially Motivated Extremists
	Militia Extremists
	Sovereign Citizen Extremists
Low	Al-Qa'ida and Affiliates
	Al-Qa'ida in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP)
	Animal Rights Extremists
	Environmental Extremists
	HAMAS
	Hizballah
	ISIS

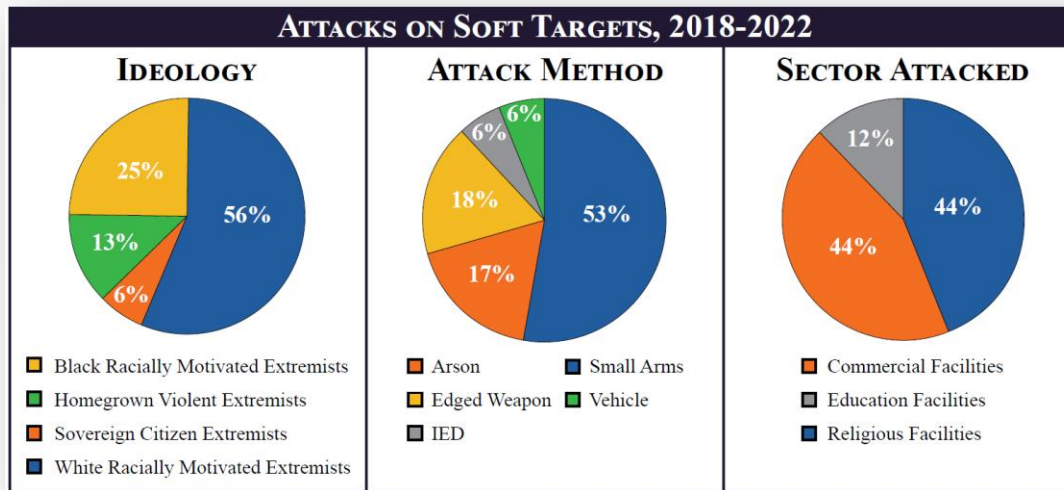
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Critical Infrastructure: Soft Targets

Domestic extremists prioritize attacking soft targets as they are easily accessible and have limited security or protective measures.

- New Jersey's soft targets include community festivals, shopping centers, schools, transportation systems, and houses of worship
- From 2018 to 2022, domestic and homegrown violent extremists carried out 16 attacks on soft targets killing 60 and injuring 66



Extremists that attack soft targets tend to use easily acquired weapons like firearms, edged weapons, and vehicles. These methods provide ways for extremists to exploit vulnerabilities and attack these locations with little or no

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On Line Social Media Examples

i.e. 4chan and Telegram



Image 3: A meme posted to the Telegram channel "Primal Aryan Warlord Gang." (Source: [Telegram](#))



Image 2: A meme containing Sam Hyde with Pepe the Frog posted to the 4chan board "/pol/." (Source: [4chan](#))

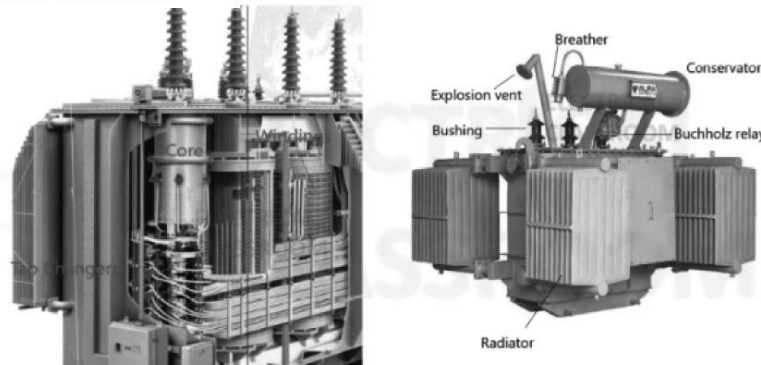


Image 1: An image posted to the 4chan board "/pol/." (Source: [4chan](#))

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New Jersey Suspicious Activity Reports: 2023 Jan/Feb

The following statistics are focused on the private sector and exclude reports targeting government, military, education and emergency services



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Counterterrorism (CT) Watch

Located at the NJ Regional Operations and Intelligence Center (ROIC)

Investigators On Duty 24 hours a day/7 days a week to receive **YOUR** information



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Jan/Feb 2023 Suspicious Activity Reports (Infrastructure Private Sector)

Infrastructure Sector	2023 Jan/Feb
Commercial Facilities	23 (15 Religion related)
Aviation	12 (8 drones)
Transportation	8
Retail	9
Healthcare and Public Health	17
Energy and Utilities	16 (Photo/Trespass/Sabotage/Vandalism)
Banking and Finance	3 (Threats)
Food and Agriculture	1
Communications	1
Manufacturing (Non-food)	3

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Type of SARS

Private Sector Jan/Feb 2023

Report Type	
Expressed or Implied Threats	49
Trespassing/Breach	11
Photo/Video/Observations	9
Aviation Activity	8
Sabotage/Tampering	8
Theft/Diversion	4
Material Acquisition	3
Testing Security	2
Misrepresentation	1
Cyberattack	1



Example of a Potential Trend



(U) Based on FBI and DHS reporting since 2021, threat actors have been targeting U.S. critical infrastructure sites and equipment in the Energy Sector, specifically electrical transmission and distribution substations, coolant components, and equipment.

(U) In preparation for future criminal activity, threat actors may research information detailing electrical infrastructure operations, including the layouts of electrical facilities; pre-plan various routes of attack; and conduct pre-operational surveillance of electrical transmission and distribution substations and equipment.

(U) There are currently dozens of open FBI investigations across the country on incidents related to the power grid and electricity infrastructure – the FBI and DHS have not determined links between any of the incidents in different cities so far or observed coordinated effort by a subject(s) committing multiple attacks. Although some domestic violent extremists have stated aspirations to attack critical infrastructure, at this time, the FBI considers the recent incidents to be primarily related to criminal actors or actors with an undetermined motivation.



New Jersey

Feb 2023

- In February, an unknown subject was observed in Atlantic County firing a weapon at an electrical transformer on a utility pole from a black sedan.
- The witness reported the subject fired one shot
- A hole was found in the transformer and was leaking fluid
- A shell casing found at the scene indicated the weapon was a rifle.



Stock Internet Images



Energy Sector Threats

- Lifeline Sector
- Electric, petroleum, natural gas, and nuclear
- Threats include Cyber, Terrorism, and Natural Disaster
- Cyber risk: High
- Terrorism: Moderate



CISA and DOE Joint Electricity Substation Physical Security Product

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Common Vulnerabilities

- Remote locations with no permanent on-site personnel or security forces
- Lack of enhanced perimeter security measures, typically chain-link fences and padlocks are utilized
- Large substation transformers are only manufactured overseas + delivery times exceed one year = negative impact to resiliency
- Cybersecurity posture inconsistent





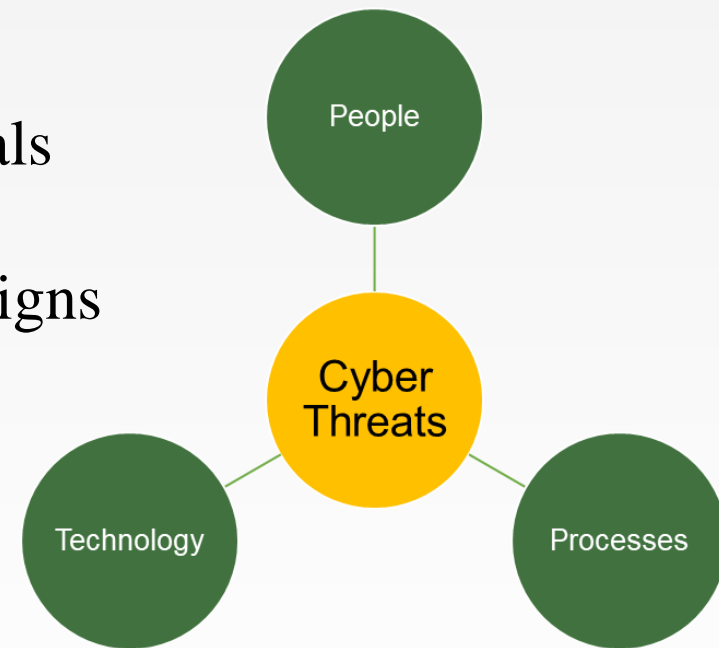
Electrical Grid

- Most vulnerable to cyber threats
- Extremist groups, and domestic actors have increased attacks at electrical substations
- Successful attacks tend to cause massive outages for customers with damages to equipment
- Common threats and attacks include:
 - Vandalism, theft, sabotage, physical attacks, cyberattacks, ballistic attacks, explosive devices, vehicle ramming attacks, and unmanned aircraft systems.



Cyber Threats

- SMiShing
- Threat actors targeting account credentials
- Compromised Account Phishing Campaigns
- Ransomware
- Distributed Denial-of-Service Attacks



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Preventing Targeted Violence

Current Initiatives

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Mitigation Efforts / Recommendations

- PARTNERSHIPS
- Assessment Program
- Information-Sharing
- Review and update response plans
- Intelligence Analysis
- Audits

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Threat Assessments / Vulnerability Assessments

- NJ “team of teams” Infrastructure Security Environment
- Vulnerability Assessment Tools
 - Facility Self-Assessment Tool (FSAT)
 - Vulnerability Assessment Request Form
- S721 Legislation implementation
 - Active Shooter/Hostile Event Emergency Action Plan Template





Preventing Targeted Violence Strategies

- Intelligence analysis / Information sharing
- New Jersey Suspicious Activity Reporting System (NJSAR System)
- Threat to Life (TTL)
- Counterterrorism Coordinator (CTC) / Municipal Counterterrorism Coordinator (MCTC) Model
- School Safety Initiative
- Infrastructure Advisory Committee
- Interfaith Advisory Council
- Behavioral Threat Assessment Management Teams (BTAM)

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Programs and Resources

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Training Initiatives

- NJ Learn
- National Domestic Preparedness Consortium
- Active Shooter Response
- Houses of Worship
- Regional Intelligence Academy



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Exercise Support

- Discussion- and Operations-based
 - Seminar
 - Tabletop
 - Full-scale
- All-hazards
 - Natural disasters
 - Cyber
 - Active Shooter



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OHSP Services

- SARs (“See Something, Say Something”)
- Training / Exercise
- Interfaith Advisory Council
- Infrastructure Security Services
- Infrastructure Advisory Committee
- NJ Shield
- Hometown Security Initiative



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Report Suspicious Activity and Special Events Submission Form

Call

• **1-866-4-SAFE-NJ** (1-866-472-3365)

E-mail

• **ctwatch@njohsp.gov**

Web Form

• **<https://homelandsecurity.nj.gov/tips.html>**

Website

• **www.njohsp.gov/njsars**

***Submit
Events***

• **www.njohsp.gov/special-events-submission-form**

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For More Information

- NJOHSP.gov
- Requests for resources can be sent:
 - Via online forms on the NJOHSP website
 - By email to the following:
 - NJ Shield and Hometown Security Events – NJShield@njohsp.gov
 - Assessments – InfrastructureSecurity@njohsp.gov
 - Training – Training@njohsp.gov
 - Exercise – Exercises@njohsp.gov
- Dan Engelhardt / Director of Preparedness
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